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YOUR CAR'S MARKED

Despite promises, the police use high-tech number plate recognition cameras to track cars of innocent protestors

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

KENT Police have come in for more criticism over their handling of last year's Climate Camp rally after it emerged that number-plate technology was used to monitor the protestors.

Officers set up cameras on roads surrounding Kingsnorth power station on the Hoo Peninsula so the details of motorists could be checked against a national database.

The force says this was to stop stolen, uninsured and dangerous vehicles, but documents released this week under the Freedom of Information Act suggest these were not the only motives.

One file in particular – a police letter to Medway Council about the authority's initial reluctance to help install the cameras – implies their use was for more than simply reducing road crime.

Written by Sgt Keith Waymont, it read: "When I put this to my bosses they were less than impressed, given the importance of this operation, as the new power station build is likely to create a considerable number of jobs for Medway."

According to an article in The Guardian, the data collected by such automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) systems is now being used throughout the country to pull over law-abiding protestors for no other reason than their vehicles were 'marked' at previous demonstrations.

Medway Tory councillor Mark Reckless, who is also a member of the Kent Police Authority which is tasked with holding the force to account, described Sgt Waymont's letter as "utterly unacceptable".



HEAVY-HANDED: Kent Police have been criticised for their disproportionate response to the Climate Camp protest staged at Kingsnorth power station in Medway last summer

He added: "By pressuring the council to set aside our concerns about planned police surveillance in this way implies Climate Camp policing was intended to face down the protestors and help E.ON build a new power station. "To the best of my knowledge this is not true. In some aspects of the operation the police

went out of their way to demonstrate neutrality, for example by not using E.ON facilities to command the operation.

"However, the unveiling of this letter can only add to concerns regarding the policing of the protest."

The environmental rally at Kingsnorth last

summer was over E.ON's plan to build a new coal-fired power station, which last month the company put on hold for up to three years.

Politicians, protestors and academics involved in the demonstration have always claimed the police response – which included the extensive use of stop-and-search powers – was disproportionate to the threat posed by the 1,500 activists.

Officers were also accused of being heavy-handed with the campaigners, seizing hundreds of personal items including soap, board games and a clown costume, and using sleep deprivation tactics – such as broadcasting The Clash hit I Fought the Law in the early hours.

Responding to the latest revelations about the use of ANPR technology, Medway Labour MP Bob Marshall-Andrews said: "The way in which the police acted at the demonstrations has alienated hundreds, if not thousands, of peaceful and law-abiding citizens.

"As for the letter to the council about the power station creating new jobs, the police may individually be concerned about things like that but they should certainly not be expressing their views in this way."

Kent Police has so far invested £5.3 million in its ANPR system, which draws on information from a variety of national databases and flags up vehicles of interest in the blink of an eye.

Chief Insp Richard Watson heads a team that specialises in using the equipment. Earlier this year he told KOS Media: "There are people who say it's like Big Brother, but I would have no need to look at your car if you were not involved in criminal activity."

And in an interview with Yourkenttv in November last year, Chief Constable Mike

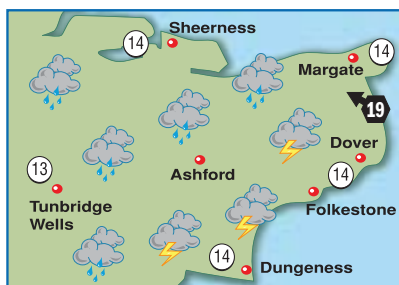
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Kent today



TODAY: It is going to be a very unsettled day with overcast skies and outbreaks of rain, often heavy and prolonged. Brisk winds. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F).
TONIGHT: Becoming dry with clear spells and glimpses of the moon. Fresh north-westerly winds. Min temp 5-8C (41-46F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	rain	12	54	London	rain	15	59
Belfast	showers	11	52	Liverpool	rain	13	55
Birmingham	rain	14	57	Manchester	rain	13	55
B'mouth	rain	14	57	Newcastle	rain	12	54
Bristol	rain	14	57	Norwich	rain	13	55
Cardiff	rain	14	57	Oxford	rain	14	57
Cork	showers	11	52	Southsea	rain	15	59
Edinburgh	rain	12	54	S'hampton	rain	14	57
Glasgow	showers	12	54	Southport	rain	13	55
Isle of Man	rain	12	54	Swansea	rain	13	55
Leeds	rain	12	54	Torquay	rain	15	59






Sun & moon

Sunrise	6.49am	Sunset	4.28pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	3.21pm	Moonset	5.17am	4.28pm to 6.51am

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	09.37 6.3 21.56 6.3	10.09 6.5 22.29 6.5
Margate	10.31 4.4 23.03 4.5	11.09 4.5 23.38 4.5
St Mary's	03.17 5.2 15.33 5.4	03.51 5.5 16.09 5.6

Week ahead

 monday Sun and showers. max 12C min 6C	 thursday Sun and showers. max 11C min 5C
 tuesday Dull. Rain. max 15C min 7C	 friday A few showers. max 12C min 5C
 wednesday Sunny spells. max 12C min 5C	 saturday Isolated showers. max 12C min 6C

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Road rage shooting shocks sleepy village

SHOCKED villagers have recalled the horrifying moment a motorist was shot in a suspected road rage attack.

The incident, which took place at about 10pm on Monday in Alkham, between Dover and Folkestone, left a man critically ill in hospital with a gunshot wound to his stomach.

People living nearby said they had been stunned by the shooting.

Teenager Jack Spicer recalled the moment he and his brother saw the victim lying in the road. "I was in the garden when we heard screeching and then shouting and swearing," he said.

"Then there was a gunshot – it was a high-pitched sound we thought could be fireworks."

He went to his sister's room, which overlooks the road, and saw two cars had stopped next to a third car.

"My brother and I decided to go and have a look," he said. "We saw a person lying in the road holding his stomach, with people standing around him."

"I asked a lad who was using a mobile phone if the man was all right. He said, 'What do you think? He's just been shot in the stomach'. It was pretty shocking."

Kate Georgiou, owner of Alkhamhurst

Kennels, said many villagers had been left upset by what happened. "It's shocking for a sleepy, pretty little place like Alkham," she said. "People are very upset."

Police have issued a fresh appeal after the incident. It is believed the attacker was in a light-coloured car and drove off towards Dover.

Officers want to speak to three female careworkers who stopped to help the injured man, as well as three men in a Peugeot 306 who also stopped shortly after the shooting.

Contact Folkestone police station on 01303 289600, or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111, if you can help.

Stop moaning about 11-plus, says Carter

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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THE leader of Kent County Council has responded to comprehensive headteachers' criticism of selective education and the pressure it puts on children to pass the 11-plus exam.

Cllr Paul Carter, who this week announced plans to adjust the provision of grammar school places to create more in the west of the county, defended selection and said the teachers had chosen to work in Kent, "so don't moan about it".

Ahead of the results of the Kent Test being published last Monday, Phil Karnavas, the principal of Canterbury High School, said a KCC official had likened the 11-plus exam to "emotional abuse of children".

Mr Karnavas went on to tell KOS Media that to some extent success in the test now depended upon, in part, "on a parent's willingness to pay for it".

In a scathing attack on opponents of the selective system, Cllr Carter said: "I don't agree with him. He has chosen to work in a high school in a selective authority, so don't moan about it."

Another principal, Ian Johnston of the Marlowe Academy in Ramsgate, called for the selective system to be scrapped, calling it "divisive" and saying the test put "unwarranted" pressure on children aged 10 or 11.

Cllr Carter said: "Outcomes for young people at 16 in Kent are well above national attainment levels."



GO WEST: KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter has defended his plans for selective education

"We have reduced the number of young people not in employment, education or training by 16 per cent compared with the national average of 12 per cent. So we have to be doing something right."

His apparent attack on teachers continued as he pointed to a report in the Times Education Supplement last week, which found one in five primary schools was not identifying 'gifted and talented' children to take part in a Government programme.

"A significant number of primary schools have not been prepared to name high-ability pupils that can access special tuition and support to help them fully realise their potential," Cllr Carter said.

"They subscribe to this one size must fit every child and I think it is pretty sad holding them back. A 'one size fits all' approach in schools is rubbish."

Kent, which has 33 grammar schools, and Medway, which has six, are the only fully selective authorities in the country. KOS Media reported last week how parents will this year be facing a frenzied race to find grammar school places with some 5,113 children having passed the Kent Test county-wide, but only 4,458 places are available.

In response to the pressure on grammar places in west Kent, Cllr Carter controversially proposed to expand provision.

Massive demand

"I'm asking to adjust the provision of [grammar] places, preserving the status quo so the percentage of yearly cohort to 24 to 25 per cent, which I told secondary school heads I would stick to, six or seven years ago," he said. "However, where we've got massive demand in west Kent and surplus places in east Kent because there are fewer pupils there passing the 11-plus there would be an adjustment in the provision across the county."

He said he plans to reduce grammar places in Thanet, Shepway and Canterbury so that more can be offered in west Kent.

Cllr Carter maintained that KCC's cabinet was "completely united" over proposals for extra grammar places in the west despite the authority's member for education, Cllr Sarah Hohler, playing down the pressure on places last week and not mentioning the plans.

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Topper the class with Clash's drum legend

By **MARIJKE COX**

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ROCK drummer Nick 'Topper' Headon has vowed to honour the spirit of his former band The Clash by helping three talented musicians fulfil their dreams.

The 54-year-old, who lives with his family in River, near Dover, told Kent on Sunday that when the punk group formed in 1976 they promised change and to give something back to their fans.

And despite fighting his own demons over the years in a long battle with heroin addiction, Headon has now pledged his support to three drummers at Canterbury Christ Church University by giving them scholarships.

"This is a Clash thing to do," he said. "I want to give something back and make things easier for these students. It's different from my day when we had grants. Now students are made to pay back loans."

"I'm in a position in my life where I can help. I used to think being clean was enough, but I want more than that."

Headon, whose mother died recently, struggled with drug addiction for more than 20 years.

Band members Joe Strummer, Mick Jones and Paul Simonon eventually told him to quit drugs or leave The Clash. He was thrown out of the band in 1982.

Headon, considered one of the greatest rock drummers of his generation, ended up on the streets before being helped by a



THE CLASH: Nick Headon, third from left, in the influential rock band's classic line-up homeless charity in London. The former Dover Grammar pupil said: "When I was at school I never once thought I would end up as an addict. But the toxic cocktail of youth and money, mixed with the kind of lifestyle I had, led me into it."

"Now I'm clean I'm looking to do what I can to help people and give something back."

Bromley-born Headon got involved with Kent homelessness charity Porchlight, and was asked to become an ambassador for the organisation. He is also a spokesman for the Hepatitis C Trust after undergoing treatment for the condition.

He has been involved with music charities and helped with the Jail Guitar Doors campaign, set up by singer Billy Bragg to provide instruments to prison inmates.

Headon said: "Some addicts use something called a 'higher power' to help them fight their addiction. This can be a kind of spiritual thing, but for me, doing all this is like my higher power."

The scholarships will continue to run every 12 months, with new students being



RHYTHM PALS: Drummer Nick Headon with scholarship student Rosey Forbes

selected at the start of each academic year.

Headon chooses the pupils he wishes to support out of a shortlisted group after watching them perform.

He said: "I see who has flair and the ones who have something about them."

"I never had lessons, so I couldn't read music. I think it's important for students to learn all aspects."

The three students who have been selected this year are Rosey Forbes, Matt Hatrick and Scott Hoenes.

Lydd Airport D-Day

A NEW date has been set for the long-awaited meeting to determine whether the expansion of Lydd Airport goes ahead.

A full meeting of Shepway council on Wednesday, March 3, next year, will determine two applications, for a new terminal building capable of handling up to 500,000 passengers a year and a 444-metre runway extension.

Supporters of the airport, also known as London Ashford, claim the plans would boost jobs and prosperity on Romney Marsh.

Opponents claim a second regional airport in Kent would be under-used and unnecessary, while destroying valuable wildlife habitats.

Village 'gun' arrest

A MAN was arrested after reports of someone carrying a handgun in a village.

A Kent Police armed response unit was called to Taylor Lane in Trottisciffe, near West Malling, at 7.40pm on Thursday.

A spokeswoman said officers used a police dog to track a suspect who was then detained.

On Friday he was being questioned in custody at a police station.

To see this search 'cancer'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk



Julie Maddocks visited HSBC in Maidstone and Invicta Grammar School during Breast Cancer Awareness Month

There's much more to KOS Media awards than trophies

MORE than 30 businesses from across Kent celebrated their innovation and resilience in the face of recession by winning awards at the inaugural KOS Media Business Challenge Awards.

On top of 10 prestigious trophies, category winners and firms and organisations which were highly commended, also shared a prize fund worth £1 million in advertising and marketing across KOS Media's stable of newspapers and internet services.

KOS Media publishes Kent on Saturday, the popular midweek Yourlocals series, Tunbridge Wells on Saturday and Tunbridge Wells on Sunday, as well as websites under the www.kentnews.co.uk banner.

Kent on Sunday has won many national awards in the last seven years, including UK Regional Newspaper of the Year seven times.

But group managing director Paul Stannard told the 120 people at the awards dinner, held at the Tudor Park Hotel, Bearsted, Maidstone, on Thursday, that a winner sometimes looks for more than a trophy or certificate.

"So we got together with our directors and sponsors and said, 'Let's really do something big, where we give the winners real long-term publicity for a sustained period - not just the week after winning the award,'" he said.

• For more on the awards, see page 87 in our Business section.



Pictures: PHIL HOUGHTON

ABOVE: KOS Media MD Paul Stannard and Julie Maddocks open the KOS Media Business Challenge Awards

BELOW: Employer Award Winner Malcolm Hayday of Charity Bank, is congratulated by Andrea Stannard from Cardy Construction



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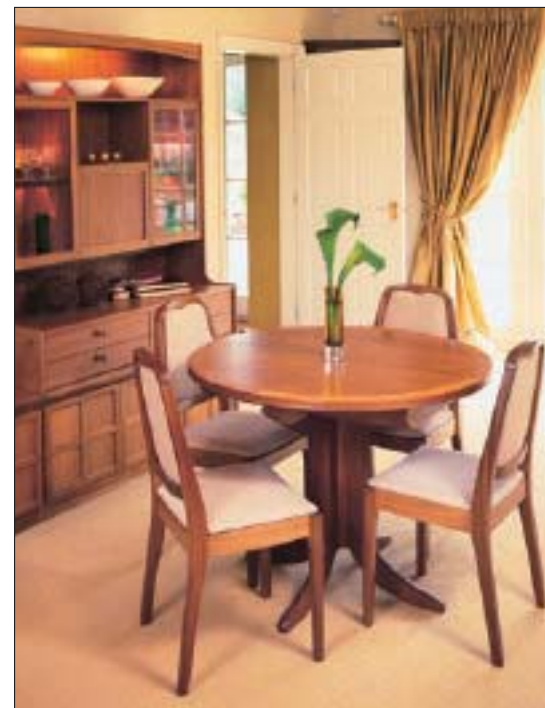
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Police officers defend Climate Camp tactics

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

Fuller said: "Law-abiding people have nothing to fear from this."

However, according to The Guardian, officers have been told they can place 'markers' against the vehicles of anyone who attends demonstrations regardless of whether or not they have committed a crime.

James Welch, legal director of the civil rights group Liberty, said: "When ANPR was first introduced it was said it would only be used to identify unlicensed and uninsured vehicles.

"Now we see it being used for a myriad of purposes without any public debate. Using it to mark cars associated with peaceful protestors interferes with an important democratic right and would seem to come pretty close to harassment."

Responding to the criticism, Chief Insp Watson said it was common practice to use ANPR at key locations where there is a large volume of vehicles – such as the Dartford crossing –

To see this search 'Fuller' @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Chief Constable Michael Fuller discusses ANPR when it was trialled in November, 2008.

to help reduce the number of people killed or injured on Kent's roads.

He added that 45 drivers who attended the Climate Camp protests were found to have no insurance, tax or licence, and all records from the demonstration would be kept for two years before being deleted.

In regards to the letter by Sgt Waymont, Chief Insp Watson said: "There was a lack of understanding of the partnership process with one person at the local authority.

"Once that had been made clear by their supervisor, there was no issue with our use of Medway's facilities."

A Medway Council official said: "Reducing crime rates is of paramount importance to the council and its partners – including the police – and we will continue to support the work of the police and, wherever possible, come to mutual agreement on all policies."

An official report into policing at the 10-day protest criticised the force's blanket use of stop and search as "disproportionate and counter-productive".

More than 8,000 searches were carried out on protestors by the more than 1,400 officers drafted in from 24 forces for the £5.3m police operation.

The police also put journalists covering the protest under surveillance, and blasted out a message from a low-flying helicopter at groups, including families, saying that if they did not disperse police horses, dogs and batons would be "used against them".

More sex offenders on register 'sign of better detection and control'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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A HUGE increase in the number of registered sex offenders living in Kent has been attributed to police dealing with them more effectively.

There are now 1,093 paedophiles, rapists and other sex offenders resident in the county compared with 730 six years ago – a rise of just under 50 per cent.

However, the increase has been welcomed by the police and probation service who see it as another sign that Kent is getting to grips with criminal activity.

Dover and Deal MP Gwyn Prosser is a member of the Home Affairs Committee in the House of Commons.

He said: "Overall crime continues to drop right across Kent, but for far too long the efforts to detect and prosecute paedophiles and other sex offenders have not always been proportional to the need.

Welcomed

"In recent years police forces have raised their game and are bringing more of these kinds of offender into the criminal justice system, which is to be welcomed.

"Other reasons for the increase in registered sex offenders can be put down to the improved methods of detecting those downloading improper images to their computers and recent changes to sex offenders registration legislation."

One person who is concerned about the increase is former Tory prisons minister Ann Widdecombe MP, whose Maidstone constituency includes a prison almost entirely occupied by sex offenders.

Last month former inmate James Donoghue, 42, was convicted of repeatedly raping a woman in her home while he was staying at a probation hostel. He will be sentenced next month.

Ms Widdecombe said: "We've just had a very large expansion of sex offenders at Maidstone and that's the one group of criminals who don't go back to where they originally came from. They tend to stay near to where they are released.

"I don't think you can just stop the problem, but the police need to be aware that it would be gross if there were too many releases in Kent. The offenders

Cervical smear take-up boost

WOMEN in Medway are above the national average for the take-up of cervical smears to protect against cancer, it has been revealed.

The NHS Information Centre found 82 per cent of the 69,400 women aged between 25 and 64 in Medway took advantage of cervical screening in 2008-09. This is above the national average of just under 79 per cent and up slightly from the previous year's figure of 81.8 per cent.

Dr Alison Barnett, Medway's director of public health, said: "It is very encouraging that women across Medway are taking advantage of screening for cervical cancer.

"Cervical screening saves lives and we would urge any woman aged between 25 and 64 to keep up to date with her screening."

should be placed around the country."

Kent's latest figures were published this week as part of the annual report from the county's Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (Mappa).

According to the document, the policing area with the highest number of registered sex offenders is south Kent – which includes Ashford, Dover and Folkestone – with 232.

The area with the lowest number is north Kent – including Dartford and Gravesend – with 115.

Mid Kent has 209, Medway has 196, east Kent has 183 and in west Kent there are 158.

Det Supt Paul Fotheringham, head of Kent Police's public protection unit, said: "An increase in registered sex offenders is partly due to changes in legislation. It is also a testament to our effectiveness in investigating and prosecuting serious sex offences on both adults and children.

"Protecting the people of Kent is our priority. We will continue to work with our partners to use all the resources available to us in order to best manage violent and sex offend-

ers, helping to keep our communities safe."

Set up under the 1997 Sex Offenders Act, the sex offenders' register allows police and probation services to monitor people convicted of the worst types of crimes.

Those on it must notify the force if they change their name or address, and some have to reveal if they plan to travel outside the UK.

Last year, 18 people in Kent were either cautioned or convicted for breaching one or more of these requirements.

A Mappa official said: "An increase in the number of registered sex offenders is a positive sign.

"The main reason for the increase is the improved detection, prosecution and conviction of those responsible for these offences.

"More offenders on the register does not mean more sex offenders on the streets. Many are required to register for long periods, with some registering for life.

"This has a cumulative effect on the total number of offenders required to register at any one time, and therefore we have always expected to see an increase in the numbers year-on-year."

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ME AND MY GIRL: Genendra Rai kisses daughter Daisy



SMILES BETTER: Ajay Tamang and daughter Sneha, three



PROUD DADDY: Hari Rai and baby daughter Rhasee

Pictures: IMAGES INTERNATIONAL LTD

A hero's welcome for dad

MORE than 100 Gurkhas were reunited with their loved ones at Folkestone's Shorncliffe Barracks after a sixth-month tour of duty in Afghanistan, where they were training police officers, *writes Nick Ames.*

Foxtrot Company of the Royal Gurkha Rifles had been in Helmand Province mentoring the Afghan national police in military skills as well as how to operate in hostile territory.

Royal Military Police had also been working with the Gurkhas, instructing Afghans in police work.

During the tour Corporal Kumar Pun, 31, of the 1st Battalion Royal Gurkha Rifles, was killed in a suicide attack in May which also claimed the life of RMP sergeant Ben Ross, 34.

The Gurkhas arrived home last Sunday after a flight into Manston via Cyprus, and two coaches carrying the soldiers were preceded by a pipe and drum band as they drove slowly through the barracks to the parade ground.

Waiting for Kiran Pun at the entrance to the base was Lila Pun and her son, Prajwal, and daughter, Chahana.

"We are so excited about seeing him," said Mrs Pun. "Chahana is just two years old but she knows her daddy is coming home."

Roger Meadows had travelled from Gloucestershire to meet his son Lt Sam



HOME AT LAST: Bhagwan Gurung is reunited with daughter Bineeta, three

Meadows. "It's been tough, very tough," he said. "Every time we hear something on the news about a casualty our minds just go out there."

"I have two daughters and both have married into the military, so a son-in-law is going

out soon. But it's great to be able to welcome Sam back."

After getting off the coaches each soldier was presented with a ceremonial scarf known as a 'khada'.

They will also visit to the grave of Cpl Pun, who is buried in a cemetery in Aldershot, after a ritual of thanksgiving known as a 'pooza' at the barracks.

A long period of leave is then being taken, with many going back to families in their native Nepal. Company commanding officer Major Chris Conroy paid tribute to the soldiers who died.

"It was great shame to lose Cpl Pun and Sgt Ross, but we knew the threat we were under and the boys have done an outstanding job throughout."

Maj Conroy said the tour had been a success in terms of objectives, and the Gurkhas had brought special qualities to the mission.

"The language similarities between the native tongues of the Gurkhas and Afghans means they are able to communicate without the use of interpreters," he said.

"This makes mentoring the police officers much more personal and effective. It also allows both parties to establish a level of trust."

"Our job was to instruct the police in how to stop and search vehicles, set up road blocks and use their weapons properly."

"We were working alongside 20 members of 173 Provost Company, Royal Military Police, who trained the Afghans in the sort of skills policemen have to have."

"The intention is that they will be able to take on the role of community policing, as we see in this country, as well as take on the insurgents."

"When we arrived they had a reasonable standard of policing skills, but that has risen sharply following the mentoring."

"The officers understand the locals and the community, so that is a major strength. But they do have weaknesses. For instance, there is only about a 10 per cent literacy rate and the ability to read and write is extremely important for police officers."

To view, search 'Gurkhas'
@ yourkenttv.co.uk



Family and friends welcome Gurkha soldiers back after six months in Afghanistan

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'Force is homophobic'

Court hears gay police officer's discrimination claims

By **JAMIE MCGINNES**

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A LESBIAN police officer accused her force of "institutional homophobia" for refusing to let her girlfriend work on the same shift as her, a tribunal heard this week.

Sgt Jasmine Stewart asked if her gay partner Mhairi Gilchrist, 29, could join her team at Ashford police station in January, 2006.

But Ms Stewart, a mother-of-two from Ashford, claimed Insp Terry Reene told her: "People here wouldn't like it, you two being a couple."

The 39-year-old – who worked for the British Transport Police – claimed officers objected as she was in a same-sex relationship. She told the tribunal in Ashford: "I felt the way it was said was because Mhairi and I were gay."

Ms Stewart, who joined British Transport Police in September, 2005, said there were many other examples of straight couples working together, but she had been discriminated against because she was gay.

She added: "I have worked with a number of officers in the British Transport Police who are partners, who are supervisory and subordinate and that works very well."

"They just happened to be heterosexual."

The hearing was told Ms Stewart threatened to start a grievance procedure if her lover was not allowed onto the same shift.

As a result, the force backed down and



lesbian partner to be on the same shift as her was turned down because officers felt it was inappropriate for a couple to be working together so closely.

It rejects Ms Stewart's claims of sexual discrimination on the grounds of her sexual orientation.

The hearing broke for lunch early after Ms Stewart had to be led to a room when she broke down in tears.

The tribunal heard how Insp Terry Reene told Ms Stewart, a training officer, that morale had dropped at the police station since her arrival. Ms Stewart said she told Insp Reene: "Either provide evidence about the morale issue or shut up."

Cross-examining her, Benjamin Uduje, representing the force, put it to her that Insp Reene had 'some reservations' about her management style.

But Ms Stewart said her team was the best performing at the station and Insp Reene had previously given her glowing appraisals.

She claimed his revised opinion of her had been influenced by her sexuality and because she was a woman.

Ms Stewart also gave examples of junior officers resisting her instructions and being rude to her. In one incident she asked a female officer for information and was told: "Whatever".

Ms Stewart said: "I had never heard her speak to a supervising officer other than myself in that way."

Miss Stewart was formerly dismissed from the force in April, 2009, on the grounds of non-attendance. Her partner has also since been sacked, the tribunal heard.

The hearing is due to last two weeks.

TRIBUNAL CLAIMS: Sgt Jasmine Stewart

accepted her request. However, Ms Stewart, fighting a sexual discrimination case against the British Transport Police, said the decision to allow her to work on the same shift with her girlfriend led to hostility from other officers.

She said: "There were comments made on a daily basis like 'I don't know why you want to go to one of those meetings – it's for the poofs'."

Benjamin Uduje, representing the force, said other officers had always been aware of and accepted Ms Stewart's sexuality, as well as being sympathetic to her childcare demands.

He said: "[That was] not the action of a force that was institutionally homophobic or had a culture of homophobia."

The force says Ms Stewart's request for her

Trust backs new 'cheap' nurse plan

A HOSPITAL Trust has defended its plan to use lower grade nurses, and denies claims they will simply replace more qualified staff.

The industry newspaper, Nursing Times has reported that some NHS hospitals, are planning to replace some trained nurses with cheaper, unregistered 'nurses' paid at a lower rate.

It names one in Sheffield and also East Kent Hospitals University Foundation.

So potentially, there will be scope for a large number of the so-called 'assistant nurses'.

One anonymous senior Trust official told Nursing Times they could be used to save money and top-up on a shortage of fully trained nurses.

Highly skilled

Julie Pearce, director of nursing, midwifery and quality for East Kent Hospitals University NHS Foundation Trust, defended the move.

She told Kent on Sunday: "An associate practitioner will be a highly skilled additional member of staff whose presence will improve the care we can offer our patients because they will be able to take on some of the roles of both the health care assistant and the nurse to give patients more consistent care."

"We have looked very carefully at where this new role can best be used in our hospitals, and we will be trialling it from April."

The Trust has under its wing Kent and Canterbury, Queen Elizabeth in Margate, William Harvey in Ashford, Buckland in Dover and Royal Victoria in Folkestone, hospitals.

Unison head of nursing Gail Adams said: "This is not like-for-like work."

And Royal College of Nursing head of employment relations Josie Irwin also takes a dim view. She said the new practice is "financially driven". However, she would back it if it was done on the basis of a proper evaluation of clinical needs and staff engagement. If patients benefited, she would back it, she said.

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NHS

Eastern and Coastal Kent

Dan proves he's the man with UK teaching award

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

MATHS teacher Dan Walton will return from his half-term holiday on Monday as the undisputed king of the classroom.

The 34-year-old employee of St John's Catholic Comprehensive in Gravesend was named secondary school teacher of the year at the UK Teaching Awards ceremony, which was screened live on BBC Two.

Described by judges as being at "the forefront of innovation", Mr Walton learnt of the news days earlier when BBC Sport presenter Jake Humphrey paid a surprise visit to Kent to present him with his trophy.

Mr Walton said: "The last few days have been a bit different to say the least. I've been on cloud nine really and I wasn't expecting it at all.

"It's been very flattering to hear all the nice things that have been said about me and it's a fantastic feeling to win, it really is.

"This is something the school, children and community can be really proud of, and I am pleased to be a part of that.

"I personally take pride in making my subject interesting and engaging because I think maths is a really important subject. I try to make sure every time the kids leave the classroom they have learned something new."

A graduate of the University of Hull, Mr

Picture: ELEANOR BENTALL



CLASS ACT: Dan (left) with Jake Humphrey

Walton spent a year carrying out voluntary work at a school in South Africa before returning to England to carry out his teacher training at St John's.

Eight years on and he is now regarded as one of the best in his profession, with his lessons being shown to other teachers as an example of best practice.

He has also been successful beyond the classroom, having led a school cricket team to win a countywide competition and also being part of a staff team.

Headteacher John Stanley said: "It could not have happened to a nicer guy. It is a really exciting time and I am proud to be the headteacher of such an innovative school.

"There are a number of teachers here who are taking Dan's lead and doing some really great things."

According to the citation read out at last

Sunday's awards ceremony at the Theatre Royal Drury Lane, London, Mr Walton is regarded as "a legend" by pupils at the school due to his interesting lessons and the way in which he helps them achieve results two grades higher than might be expected.

But according to the man himself, there is no great formula as to why his teaching style is proving so popular.

He said: "I just really enjoy working with children and I love my subject, and when you combine the two it just seems to work very well. It's a very rewarding job.

"I think the whole school will be really pleased and I know lots of the kids tuned in to watch the ceremony, so it should certainly be an experience when I go back after half term."

Mr Walton was not the only Kent teacher to have achieved success at the awards, as four others – including his St John's colleague Colm Murphy – were recognised at the regional stages earlier this year. He received the award for enterprise in the South East while Michelle McCarthy, of Sandling Primary School, Maidstone, was named new teacher of the year in the South East.

Suzanne Pratt, of Wrotham School, Sevenoaks, picked up the prize for next generation learning, and Sarah Gingell, of New Ash Green Primary School in Longfield, was named primary school teacher of the year in the South East.

In addition, the Tunbridge Wells-based Skinners School won the region's sustainable schools award.

Young suicidal refugee freed by court – for now

A 10-YEAR-OLD girl from Nigeria who came close to killing herself while in custody awaiting deportation has won the right to have her case heard in court.

Adeoti Ogunola, who attends St Mary's Primary School in Gillingham, was freed from a holding centre near Gatwick airport where she was being held with her mother Clementina.

The girl had been forcibly removed from relatives in Hempstead near Gillingham and taken to Tinsley House to be with her mother who was already there. It was the second time Adeoti had been taken into a removal centre, and she finally cracked.

She tied an electric flex around her neck in the dead of night and was only saved by a member of staff on patrol passing the kitchen.

Her legal team has been back to the High Court in the hope of getting the deportation order scrapped permanently.

Murdered

While that didn't happen during Wednesday's hearing, the UK Border Agency did concede the night before the hearing it would be happy for a court to hear the full case.

After her failed suicide bid, Adeoti told her mother: "I want to die here, not in Nigeria."

Medical experts also warned about keeping her locked up because it was causing her to become deeply depressed.

Mrs Ogunola, 35, has been advised not to make any more public statements, but she previously told KOS Media she has only just discovered her brother and father have been murdered and her mother has fled their home in Nigeria.

The Border Agency said: "Treating children with care and compassion is a priority."

No date has yet been set for a new hearing.



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Invitation to join maternity protest

A MAIDSTONE hospital campaigner is preparing to take his maternity unit fight to Downing Street and is calling on his supporters to join him.

Liberal Democrat Peter Carroll has received more than 2,000 letters and 5,000 paper signatures backing his petition against plans to move the consultant-led unit to the new Pembury hospital.

Following the overwhelming response, Mr Carroll, who is Lib Dem Maidstone and Weald parliamentary candidate, is ready to take the petition to the Secretary of State for Health, Andy Burnham, and says the more people who go along the better.

The changes would see Maidstone's maternity unit replaced with a midwife-led birthing unit for low-risk births.

MP's wife: 'I'll sue if sacked'

THE spouse of Thanet Tory MP Roger Gale has reacted furiously to a report suggesting she could be sacked from working for her husband.

There is a chance new Parliamentary rules designed to tackle the scandal of MPs' expenses will outlaw members from employing their spouse to officially work for them.

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

But Suzy Gale said: "I have done this job for almost 27 years. This report which was leaked is not gospel, but it's a crazy situation. "It is not a party political thing because it will affect all the parties."

She has taken advice from an employment lawyer, and says that if the new rule is brought in she will take legal action for unfair dismissal.

The new rules could be introduced to stop scandals like former Kent MP Derek Conway paying his son £10,000 when he was at university and not even working for him.

Mrs Gale said: "There are over 200 of us. The crazy thing is that if I was just living with Roger and I had no formalised partnership like a marriage, it seems I would be allowed to carry on working."

"He doesn't want to sack me, and as far as I am aware, I haven't done anything too ghastly that would warrant me being sacked and he can't really make me redundant because my job will still exist."

"I have always said I'd be prepared to go in front of a panel and compete with others for my job because I think I would still get it."

Mrs Gale has been interviewed by the Committee of Standards about her job position and made it clear to them she was the right person for the role.



LONG SERVICE: Suzy Gale has worked for her MP husband Roger for almost 30 years

She said: "I can understand the thinking behind it but this is going too far. I have always said I don't think a member should employ more than one family member."

"I understand people's disquiet, but there is nothing stopping them ringing up their member and asking to see what their spouse does all day and see what we get up to."

When Mr Gale was first elected to Parliament in June, 1983, as the MP for Thanet North his wife gave up her job as the political agent for the Hammersmith constituency, in London.

In addition to her political qualifications she is a qualified executive PA/secretary with a considerable degree of previous, varied office management experience.

Sir Christopher Kelly, who ran an inquiry into parliamentary expenses, is the chairman of the Committee on Standards in Public Life, and according to a leaked report, is ready to push through the rules banning spouses working for MPs.

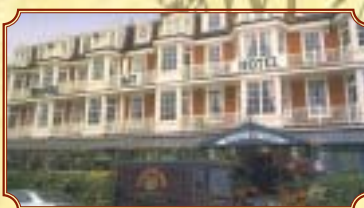
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'Inadequate and unfair'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

Anger as EDF gets away with £50 pay out

ENERGY giant EDF has been accused of letting down its customers over power cuts that caused chaos in Kent last July.

More than 90,000 homes and businesses throughout north-west Kent suffered lengthy blackouts when vandals broke into a cable bridge in Dartford and caused several cables to catch fire.

EDF has since offered customers left without power for 24 hours or more a 'goodwill payment' of £50, but critics say poor security at the site of the vandalism was to blame, and are calling on the firm to provide a higher level of compensation.

The issue reached Parliament last week when Bexleyheath and Crayford Tory MP David Evennett blasted EDF during a debate in the House of Commons. He said: "EDF has

offered only a one-off payment of £50 for those who were without power for 24 consecutive hours. That decision has been met with disbelief, and has caused people to mistrust EDF.

"My constituents feel it was inadequate and unfair, and I have to agree.

Failure

"EDF failed to secure the site adequately, failed to implement adequate contingency measures after the incident, failed to assist large numbers of vulnerable people, failed to appreciate the problems they faced, and failed reasonably to recompense residents."

Under the gas and electricity regulator Ofgem's guaranteed standards policy, power companies that fail to meet certain service levels must pay compensation to their customers.

However, EDF says it is exempt from the policy on this occasion because the power cuts were caused

by vandals and therefore out of its control.

In the meantime, 62-year-old Dartford resident Rosanna Currans is calling on other residents affected by the power cuts to join her campaign and put pressure on EDF to increase its compensation offer.

Mrs Currans has so far compiled a petition of more than 1,500 signatures and is urging people to send letters of complaint to the firm.

She said: "We lost an awful lot of money through the lack of electricity, and we weren't even the worst affected.

"We lost about £285 worth of food that had defrosted, we lost our £100 insurance excess and now we have to pay higher premiums.

"As far as we can see it was a lack of security that led to the power cuts, which is terrible for such a high-risk site.

"If I didn't secure my house proper-

ly I wouldn't expect my insurance company to pay out for things that were stolen, so why should EDF be able to get away with it?

"They just don't appear to want to take any responsibility."

An EDF spokeswoman said the firm takes its responsibilities to its customers "very seriously" and that it sympathised with customers whose supplies were affected during the power cuts.

She added: "In our view, under the legislation this incident in Dartford was exempt from Ofgem's guaranteed standards system. We notified Ofgem of our decision, and it noted our position."

The spokeswoman added that Ofgem was now carrying out an audit to decide if the customer interruptions from the incident can be excluded from the firm's overall performance figures for the year.

Jail for child porn distributor

A PAEDOPHILE who collected sickening images and films of children has been sentenced to 14 months in prison.

James Mullen, 23, was sentenced at Maidstone Crown Court after pleading guilty to 17 offences of distributing and possessing indecent images of children, and one charge of obscene communication.

Mullen, who claims his hobby was an obsession, was caught after Kent Police received a tip-off from America that he was using a computer to download the images and distribute them to others.

The terminal was seized from his home in Maidstone and the digital forensic team discovered 379 indecent images of children - 11 were rated a level five, classed as the most serious, and depicting sadism or bestiality with children.

Mullen denied having a sexual interest in children but said he had



CHILD ABUSE: James Mullen, 23

downloaded the images to "flush out" paedophiles and claimed he had reported them to an internet service

provider - although police say such a report was never found.

He was also charged with sending obscene photos and text messages through a television dating site to a woman he had never met.

In the messages Mullen expressed his sexual fantasies, which included a description of abuse against a 'fantasy niece'. Mullen also left voice messages during which he pretended to abuse a child.

The woman found the messages so disturbing she reported him to the police, leading to his arrest on November 24, 2008, and then again on May 28 this year at his home in Brabourne Way. He pleaded guilty to the charges and said he knew his behaviour was wrong.

Judge Philip Statman said: "You were the adult, you had the ability to choose to press the button on your computer to download and distribute these images."

Exhibition to tell the stories behind memorial names

A TEAM of dedicated historians is aiming to tell the stories behind the names which appear on the St Dunstan's War Memorial in Canterbury to commemorate this year's Remembrance Sunday.

Those to be remembered include George Austen who was among 814 British prisoners of war crammed aboard an Italian ship that was torpedoed and sunk. But his family did not know how he had died until 54 years later when details of the tragedy were finally released by the Ministry of Defence.

George's story and those of all the other men named on St Dunstan's war memorial, Canterbury, will be told at an exhibition on Remembrance Sunday.

Photographs, letters and first-hand accounts will trace the lives of those who died in the two World Wars.

The exhibition, called Not Just A Name, is to be held at St Dunstan's Church Hall on Sunday from 11-4pm, admission free.

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Scores by special delivery

MEDWAY'S primary school pupils' all-important exam results will be delivered by courier service, it has been announced.

Council chiefs said their "unprecedented" decision was made in response to this week's Royal Mail postal strike, which looked set to leave thousands of youngsters across the country without their 11-plus results.

The Medway Test scores were due to be delivered on Friday and Saturday.

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Simple steps to prevent infection

WITH the flu season now upon us, a campaign has been launched to remind everyone good hygiene can help prevent its spread.

New figures show the number of cases has increased to 30 per 100,000 population from 21 per 100,000 the previous week in east Kent, only slightly under the national average.

Health chiefs are underlining what they have been saying all along – that the most common way infections are spread is on people's hands – especially those that cause diarrhoea, sickness, tummy bugs, colds and flu – hence the launch of NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent's Clean Your Hands campaign.

Deputy director Andy Scott-Clark said: "People should always clean their hands after using the toilet, before and after eating

or handling food, and after handling animals. They should cover all cuts and abrasions with waterproof dressings.

"Everyone should encourage children to clean their hands by showing them how to do it properly, and by setting them a good example.

"Encouraging children to clean their hands at appropriate times will help ensure this practice becomes a habit."

Visiting friends and relatives in hospital can be problematic, so it is crucial to clean hands thoroughly before and after the visit.

Other ways to help stop the spread of infection include covering the nose and mouth with a disposable single-use tissue when sneezing, coughing, wiping and blowing noses, disposing of used tissues in the nearest waste bin, and also washing hands afterwards.

Once people are confirmed with swine flu by the National Pandemic Flu Service, they will be given a unique authorisation number for their 'flu friend' to use to pick up the necessary antivirals.

For more information visit www.direct.gov.uk/pandemicflu or call 0800 1 513.



Helping you choose your healthcare well

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

AS winter approaches, the season of most illness and accidents, health chiefs are urging people to brush up on their knowledge of what help NHS services can offer.

Traditionally, whenever things go wrong, people show up at their local hospital A&E department.

But the NHS says there are many other facilities, better prepared to deal with a some cases.

And getting it right can avoid waiting in an hours-long queues, and at the same time help save the NHS a fortune.

NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent has launched its Choose Well campaign to help people get the most from their health services.

Every year, A&E departments



LEVELS: Dr Robert Stewart wants people to consider all the options available for treatment

in eastern Kent see more than 170,000 patients, costing the NHS almost £14 million.

But new figures, show an aston-

ishing 34,500 of these patients could avoid attending A&E and be treated more quickly by their GP, walk-in centre, minor injuries unit, pharmacist or even by themselves with basic self-care, first aid and advice.

The string of extra facilities can be confusing for some people, hence the publicity campaign.

Medics believe people would make the right decision if they knew about all their options and understood them well.

The easy choice is A&E because it is the most obvious.

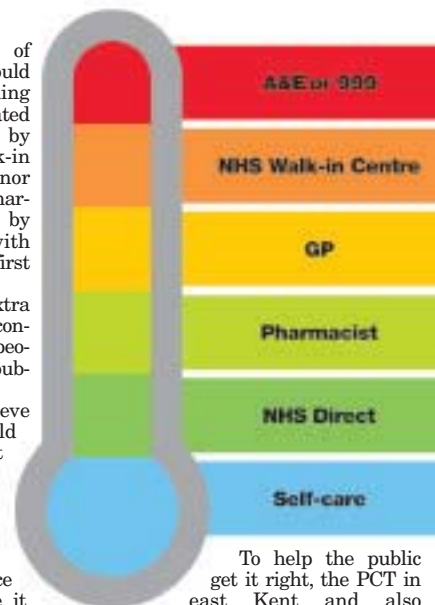
But Dr Robert Stewart, medical director at NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, said: "We want more patients to get the best treatment and quite often that doesn't mean going straight to A&E, which can't always give the quickest and most appropriate care because it is dealing with the more urgent cases.

"So this campaign is trying to explain the NHS spends a lot of money on A&E attendances, and patients can get better and quicker advice elsewhere.

"Often we have a very under-utilised service which pharmacists are able to give, along with NHS Direct which is really easy for patients to access.

"For minor things, people in A&E will have to wait several hours when they could be dealt with much more quickly using other NHS facilities."

Ann Sutton, chief executive of NHS Eastern and Coastal Kent, said: "The Choose Well campaign has a significant role to play in the well being of people who live in Ashford, Canterbury, Dover, Shepway, Swale and Thanet."



To help the public get it right, the PCT in east Kent and also Medway is using a colour-coded thermometer. West Kent is currently considering its position on the campaign.

Choose Well aims to reduce the burden on all in-demand NHS services by helping people to associate the severity of their symptoms with a particular NHS service.

So, people should use A&E or dial 999 for critical or life-threatening situations.

Then their local NHS Walk-in Centre or Minor Injury Unit can be visited for treatment of minor illnesses or injuries, without an appointment.

Then GPs can be seen for medical advice, examinations and prescriptions for illnesses which you just can't shake off.

A pharmacist can be quizzed for advice on common winter illnesses, and the best medicines to treat them.

NHS Direct is for absolutely any health questions, around the clock, and also to find local services.

And finally self-care can be used for treatment of minor winter illnesses, by combining a well stocked medicine cabinet with plenty of rest.

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Students picture the importance of world heritage bid

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

IMAGES capturing the historical importance of Chatham's dockyard will be used to help promote its bid to become a World Heritage Site, *writes Steve Knight*.

Students from the University for the Creative Arts were commissioned by Medway Council to create a collection of photographs of the docks and their wartime defences, which are on the UK shortlist of potential nominations.

The shots went on display for the first time this week at Eastgate House in Rochester.

Mature student Chris Van Beck, 56, was one of four photographers who took part.

He said: "The dockyard is surrounded by high walls and the council wanted us to help

overcome this invisibility and find ways of making it transparent to the people. It was a big buzz for me to be involved.

"I have a profound sense of the importance of the dockyard and its defences, and I think they meet a lot of the criteria for a World Heritage Site. Once you walk through these walls and find out about the history of the place, it becomes clear how important it is."

World Heritage Sites are registered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco), which encourages the protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage considered to be of outstanding value to humanity.

Other locations already afforded World Heritage status include Canterbury Cathedral, Stonehenge, the Statue of Liberty, the Great Wall of China and hundreds more.

As well as the dockyard, Chatham's proposed site includes Fort Amherst, Gun Wharf, Upnor Castle, the Great Lines, Brompton village, Pembroke and Brompton Barracks.

Mr Van Beck said: "It would be a tremendous feeling if my photographs helped the area become a World Heritage Site. The other students and I gained a very strong sense of identification with the docks and it would mean a lot to us all."

"It was an extra-curricular activity for us and we all learned so much from it."

A second round of consultation on Chatham's World Heritage nomination was launched on Wednesday and will be open until November 18. Visit www.chatham-worldheritage.org.uk for more information.

Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust chairman Admiral Sir Ian Garnett said: "World Heritage Site status will recognise the outstanding contribution made by thousands of Medway people to Britain's maritime heritage. The Historic Dockyard is testament to the skill and dedication of those who built, maintained and manned the ships of the Royal Navy."

"It stands as a permanent source of pride in the past and inspiration for the future."



VISUAL: The images are to be used to enhance the World Heritage Site bid

Costume goes rock 'n' stroll

AN ELVIS entertainer was left all shook up when one of his famous white jumpsuits was stolen after a performance in Lydd.

Cliff Castle, who impersonates The King at venues across the region, said the theft took place at about midnight on Saturday, October 17, after he finished playing at the Royal Oak pub in Park Street.

The valuable jumpsuit, known as the 'Red Lion suit', was taken along with an expensive stage microphone. The stolen Elvis suit was made by B&K Enterprises in the US, which, according to its website, is an "internationally acclaimed" maker of authentic Elvis recreations.

Anyone with information about the theft, or about the stolen Elvis suit or microphone, can call police on 01303 850055. Alternatively, contact Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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By **CHRIS MURPHY**

A LEADING academic says women should worry less about becoming a victim of date rape drugs through spiked drinks, and think more about the actual quantity of alcohol they are knocking back.

Dr Adam Burgess, based at the University of Kent's school of social policy, sociology and social research, said: "There have been many proper medical studies around the world which have found pretty much zero instances of a date rape drug present in a woman who claims she has been drugged for sex.

"What is apparent is that they have in almost every case simply been drinking too much. My study looked at the reason for this and it seems most women are simply in active denial. They think they have been the victim

Study debunks 'urban myth' of date rape drugs

of a spiked alcoholic drink, when in fact they have just drunk too much."

Large amounts of alcohol can leave them "incoherent and incapacitated", researchers concluded. Dr Burgess said: "They go through

many ways of avoiding having their drink spiked, including some who told me they just drink it quicker to avoid being spiked.

"It would be far better if they simply didn't drink too much in the first place so they were able to maintain control."

He added: "Everyone seems to believe there is a major risk of drink spiking, when in reality studies have shown it to be a myth. I wanted to know why people continue to believe it. Even the date rape drugs themselves are practically impossible to get hold of."

Ingrained

He said fears about date rape drugs such as Rohypnol and GHB are so ingrained that students mistakenly think it is a more important factor in sexual assault than being drunk, taking other drugs themselves or even walking alone at night.

Kent County Council's controversial internet video service Kent TV is now running a taxpayer-funded soap opera about a student, and one of its storylines will include drink spiking.

Dr Burgess's study is published in the British Journal of Criminology. It found three quarters of students identified drink spiking as an important risk – more than

alcohol or drugs. And more than half said they knew someone whose drink had been spiked, despite no real evidence it actually happens.

Police around the world find no evidence that rape victims are commonly drugged with such substances, the researchers said.

"Young women appear to be displacing their anxieties about the consequences of consuming what is in the bottle on to rumours of what could be put there by someone else," Dr Burgess said.

"The reason why fear of drink spiking has become widespread seems to be a mix of it being more convenient to guard against than the effects of alcohol itself, and the fact that such stories are exotic – like a more adult version of 'stranger danger'."

He said women go to excessive lengths to avoid the chance of an alcoholic drink being spiked by taking them to the lavatory in clubs and bars, and buying only bottled drinks.

Dr Burgess said: "Our findings suggest guarding against drink spiking has also become a way for women to negotiate how to watch out for each other in an environment where they might well lose control from alcohol consumption."

Co-researcher Dr Sarah Moore said: "We would be very interested in finding out whether the urban myth of spiking is also the result of parents feeling unable to discuss with adult daughters how to manage drinking and sex and representing their anxieties about this through discussion of drink spiking risks."

Nick Ross, chairman of the Jill Dando Institute of Crime Science, said: "There is no evidence of widespread use of hypnotics in sexual assault, let alone Rohypnol, despite many attempts to prove the contrary."

"During thousands of blood and alcohol tests lots of judgement-impairing compounds were discovered, but they were mostly street drugs or prescription pharmaceuticals taken by the victims themselves. Above all, alcohol was the common theme."

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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

IMMIGRATION minister Phil Woolas says the relationship between border officials in Kent and France is one of the strongest in the world.

Speaking after receiving a tour of the Joint Intelligence Unit (JIU) at Folkestone police station on Tuesday, Mr Woolas said the partnership was envied by other nations struggling to cope with the global increase in people-trafficking.

He said: "The scale of the increase is impossible to know for sure, but what we are increasingly finding is that with the sharing of information and the border and visa controls we are getting on top of the problem."

"The Americans are now looking jealously across the Atlantic at what we are doing."

The JIU was established in 2001 to tackle people-smuggling into Kent, just months after 58 Chinese migrants were found suffocated in the back of an airless freight container at Dover.

It manages intelligence related to a range of issues including national security, ports and immigration, and comprises of officers from Kent Police, the Serious Organised Crime Agency, the Department for Work and Pensions, and the UK Border Agency and its French equivalent.

A dedicated French police officer is also based at the unit to provide a direct line of communication across the Channel.

Joining Mr Woolas on his tour of the JIU was the French immigration minister Eric Besson,

A united front in controlling UK's borders



CLAMPDOWN: Phil Woolas

who last month ordered the clearance of the Calais migrant camp known as 'the Jungle'.

Mr Besson told reporters the two governments had been working "hand-in-hand" to

tackle illegal immigration.

He added: "This challenge is neither French nor British – it's our common issue."

"The irregular migrants on the French coasts of the English Channel and the North Sea don't cross over continents to settle in France. They have a unique wish – they want to reach the United Kingdom."

"President Nicolas Sarkozy and Prime Minister Gordon Brown have committed to make our common border impervious to all kinds of trafficking."

"With the participation in the JIU of all the British and French competent services, we now have an enhanced ability to share intelligence, and design combined police operations against human traffickers."

Between April, 2008, and March of this year there were 28,000 attempted breaches of

the UK border by illegal migrants. In two of the most extreme cases lives were almost lost when foreign nationals were found hiding in a gluten tank and on another occasion sealed in plastic sacks.

Following the clearance of the Jungle, the French authorities sent three illegal migrants back to Afghanistan while offering housing to hundreds more.

When asked if he thought the total was a little low, Mr Woolas replied that even one deportation would show the people-traffickers they mean business.

He said: "The law must be implemented and if three people being sent back is the result of that, then three people it is."

"It is of course a matter for the French Government, but my point is that even one deportation shows the people-traffickers that we are serious."

Firework watch

KENT Police are urging children and teenagers to stay safe and act responsibly during this year's fireworks festivities.

Extra patrols will be out and about in the county to clampdown on antisocial behaviour associated with fireworks.

Insp Phil Hibben said: "Please remember that fireworks can be dangerous. People can look at our website for good advice and should always follow the Fireworks Code."

"We will also be increasing the number of officers on patrol during this period to ensure that the small minority within our communities who decide to act antisocially are held to account for their actions."

Kent Fire and Rescue Service's head of community safety Stuart Skilton said: "People should bear in mind that a simple sparkler can burn up to a temperature of 2,000 degrees centigrade, so they should never be given to children under the age of five."

Support network

PATIENTS with long-term illnesses such as heart disease are being supported by a new telephone-based health advice service.

NHS West Kent launched the Care Call service, which is staffed by registered nurses called health coaches, to help people manage their care more independently.

Health coaches have been calling people aged 16 and over who are registered with a GP practice in west Kent to see if they want to join the service since its launch in April.

Steve Phoenix, the PCT's chief executive, said: "It is a proactive way of helping manage their conditions."

Although the Care Call service is being offered to everyone, it is particularly aimed at people with asthma, heart problems, diabetes and chest problems. Health coaches will send patients reading material about their conditions and information about medication.



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Armed Forces recruits set to make good on their pledge

FOUR men from the county will be swearing their Oath of Allegiance and enlisting at a ceremony at the Armed Forces Careers Office in Chatham.

During the event on Tuesday, November 3, former Minster College student Luke Foreman, 18, from Queensborough, will be joining the Royal Artillery, and former St George's School pupil, Daniel Sheehy, 24, from Gravesend, will be joining the Grenadier Guards.

They will be joined by former student of Wrotham School, Christopher Longley, 18, from Sevenoaks, who is going into the Royal Artillery, and Soni Mills, 23, from Maidstone, who will be joining the Royal Logistics Corps.

Opportunities

Warrant Officer 2 Kevin Gibson, Group Warrant Officer, said: "The Oath of Allegiance ceremony is the first official step in their Army careers, and will be a significant day for them, their friends and family."

"We wish the lads every success with their chosen regiments."

"The Army is a great career choice with so many job opportunities currently on offer, from catering, medicine and combat to engineering and IT."

"There are also some great incentives available to every soldier, such as subsidised accommodation and food, free medical and dental care, discounted rail travel and also subsidised crèche and nursery facilities."

Education boss defends 11-plus against headteacher's attack...

'We can't all be good at everything'

Rosalind Turner



COUNTY Hall's education chief has spoken out in defence of the Kent Test, which was recently described as an "abuse" of pupils, *writes Steve Knight.*

Rosalind Turner has been managing director of Kent County Council's children, families and education department since May, having previously held similar positions in Suffolk and Brighton.

She told KOS Media the 11-plus exam helps parents decide how their children should best be educated, rather than being part of a "system of rejection" – as it was recently described by Canterbury High School headteacher Phil Karnavas.

Ms Turner said: "Life always has tests – some people pass them and some people don't.

Some people are good at sports or art, and some aren't. We can't all be good at everything."

"But when it comes to the Kent Test it's important we don't talk about children having failed because that's not what it's about. It's about helping them choose the most appropriate form of education."

"We're very keen to live the debate about education and make people realise there is genuine choice in Kent."

"I know of parents whose children passed the test but decided against a grammar school because they felt they would receive a more well-rounded education elsewhere."

Baby Peter

Ms Turner's career in education began in 1983 as a teacher and sixth-form tutor in East Sussex, after which she became a play development officer.

In her eight years working for Brighton and Hove City Council Ms Turner worked her way up to be the assistant director of children, schools and families before leaving to become director of children and young people at Suffolk County Council.

There she led a team of 2,500 staff and had overall responsibility for 10,000 workers in the county's 356 schools.

Her role at KCC also requires her to run the children's social services department, and Ms Turner's arrival in Kent came at a

time when the public was still in shock over the Baby Peter scandal.

Every council in the country has been forced to evaluate its practices as a result of the tragedy, and Ms Turner said KCC was no different: "It's been a really hard year for the industry. There was a real sense of grief that something like that could happen to a child and it's had an impact on us all."

Ms Turner said one of her long-term priorities was to strengthen the links between each stage of a child's education, from the early years centres up to secondary school level and beyond.

She explained that some youngsters suffered due to the scenery changing "too radically" and not being taught in a way that is best suited to their individual needs.

Ms Turner said: "I think we have some schools that are doing fantastically well and others that are struggling, and we need to support the struggling ones."

"What all schools are having difficulty with though is getting good teachers."

"We have some wonderful teachers like Dan Walton, who was named secondary school teacher of the year last weekend, but there is still a shortage."

"People can get negative about the education system at this time of year, but I just want people to have confidence in it in Kent because there are a lot of good things going on here and, above everything else, the children are happy."

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Driver pays price for speed

A SPEEDING motorist who had already clocked up six points on his licence through speeding tickets has been fined £990 and given an additional three points.

Paul Deverall, 59, of West Kingsdown, Sevenoaks, was caught driving at 39mph in a 30mph zone on the A225, Hawley Road, in Dartford, on November 10 last year.

Deverall pleaded not guilty, but following

evidence on the accuracy and calibration of the safety camera, Dartford Magistrates Court found him guilty, fined him £990 and gave him the three points on his licence.

Katherine Barrett, of the Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership said: "This case demonstrates how seriously speeding offences are taken and is a warning to anyone who thinks they can get away with it."

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DATA protection rules have come under scrutiny after residents' driving licences and utility bills were allegedly posted on a town hall website, **writes Steve Knight.**

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) is now investigating complaints made about Ashford Borough Council's online planning archive, which contains scans of documents dating back to 1984. Usually such files are limited to letters, application forms and drawings, but more sensitive information has also allegedly found its way into the system.

Ashford resident Miriam Lewis said she complained to the ICO after her signature was included with a scan of a letter she sent to the council.

She said: "I needed to refer to an old application and I was shocked by what was on there. Documents that had previously been treated as confidential had been put online for all to see. After that I started looking at random ones and was amazed to find things like utility bills, driving licences and even letters from doctors.

"It's not just Ashford either. I've looked at council sites around the country and there are bank details and payslips on some of them. Everyone is telling us to look after documents and beware of identity fraud, but what's the use when they're being posted on local government websites? It's completely unacceptable."

October saw National Identity Fraud Prevention Week, a multi-agency initiative led by organisations including the National Fraud Authority, the Identity and Passport Service and the Association of Chief Police Officers.

Included on a related website are tips for individuals to avoid ID theft, including shredding unwanted documents and keeping any that contain personal details in a safe place.

Mrs Lewis is less than satisfied with the result of her complaint so far, which was registered in August.

Backlog

She said: "Ashford council's head of data protection took a dim view of the situation and told me he had instructed the planning department to remove all 'decided' applications until it was sorted, but that still hasn't happened.

"I haven't got anywhere with the ICO either because they have a three-month backlog. I really think this should be exposed, because people need to know."

The ICO confirmed it was looking into a complaint by Mrs Lewis. An Ashford council spokesman said it would not be appropriate to comment until after the matter had been investigated.

A spokesman for the ICO said: "We take breaches of privacy very seriously. Any organisation which processes personal information must ensure adequate safeguards to keep that information secure. This is an important principle of the Data Protection Act.

"We will be contacting Ashford council to establish the full facts of the case before deciding what steps, if any, we will take."

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Data protection row hits town hall's website



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By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A GROUP of youngsters in Kent had been amusing themselves by persistently launching a volley of stones into the back gardens of people with greenhouses.

Police knew that at least five offences had been committed and suspected it was the same group of nine and 10-year-olds who had been causing the damage.

The youngsters, their parents and four of the victims who were willing, sat down together and discussed the effects of the anti-social behaviour, eventually agreeing that as recompense each young perpetrator would donate £10 to Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Restorative justice practices, like the one described, are being trialled in Maidstone and

Police say it's time to talk about crime

Restorative justice tackles antisocial behaviour

Shepway as a way for police to deal with anti-social behaviour and low-level crime.

Sgt Jim Watson, Kent's Police's restorative lead, said: "One of the targets is to reduce the number of first-time entrants into the crimi-

nal justice system. We recognise that quite a large element make mistakes growing up or beyond that, and they should have a chance to learn from that, rather than be criminalised."

In the example above, the victims, who were all elderly, did not want the children to pay for the damage, they just wanted them to stay out of trouble, he said.

"What happened was quite heart warming," he said. "The victims felt they had their chance to be heard and the youngsters to understand how it had made them feel."

The force, working with Kent County Council, local authorities and mediation services, is rolling out restorative justice, and the next area to benefit will be Tunbridge Wells.

Enforcement

In an interview with KOS Media about how the force is tackling anti-social behaviour, Chief Constable Michael Fuller said: "It [restorative justice] is being used by the PCSOs and police officers in neighbourhoods, but it is not recognised officially by the Home Office as a way of dealing with it."

"It is more victim-focused and sometimes they [victims of antisocial behaviour] are just looking to be compensated and not have to go to court and give evidence."

Sgt Watson gave examples of problems, ranging from a few drivers who would park dangerously outside a school, to more than

40 community members who met to discuss the problem of young people playing rowdy football matches in a small close.

"While we have enforcement laws, they are not always the best way," he said. "It works more efficiently for individuals who have problems to go through the process about how it affects people and what it is these people want in order to make it better."

He said restorative justice was also used alongside the criminal justice system. When it was used in Kent to deal with retail offences such as shoplifting and theft by employees, re-offending was reduced by around 18 per cent.

In these incidences, offenders were given a caution or reprimand as well as taken to meet the shop owner or manager.

Supt Jon Sutton, head of the force's neighbourhood policing teams, added: "Restorative justice is proven to reduce re-offending and is a method of dealing with antisocial behaviour and low-level crime to the victims' wishes as much as anything else. Sometimes people do not want offenders to be arrested or it is not appropriate to arrest them, but it is more appropriate to work together to address the problems."

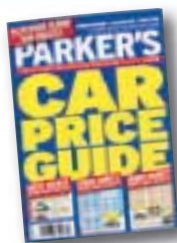
"Often it is a communication issue that can be resolved... it can be a more appropriate and proportionate way of dealing with low-level crime and antisocial behaviour that has a disproportionate impact on the victim. It is about coming together to find a solution jointly."

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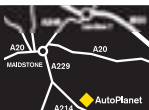
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A FARMER has spoken of his shock and distress at finding two feral dogs savaging his small flock of prized sheep, **writes Chris Murphy.**

They were eight rare Badger Face and two Zwartbles sheep – half are now dead, and a question mark hangs over the rest.

Farmer John Shrubsall said: "There were two dogs in the field going berserk. It was horrible to see. I am convinced these were completely wild dogs.

"I went along to check on the flock early in the morning and you can't believe how I felt when I saw what these dogs were doing.

"They were snarling and looked like they would attack anything alive, my sheep, a child or even an adult.

"I called the police and they sent in a marksman who shot them both dead. Incredibly, the dogs remained in the field all that time.

"I believe they were once guard dogs and managed to escape. I just hope other people will learn by this and ensure their dogs are not able to escape.

"It's horrific what damage they can cause – they turn wild and look for food anywhere they can, and in this case it was my field.

"It has left my 17-year-old daughter Gail very distressed. She has some sheep of her own and hopes for a career in this area, so she was particularly upset when I told what happened here."

Devastating

Mr Shrubsall is now faced with the worry of having to put down the rest of the flock as sheep become distressed easily and the effects can be lasting.

The attack dogs were identified as a Rottweiler and Dogue De Bordeaux. They were shot last Sunday morning on the farm in Eastling, near Faversham.

The attack left one sheep dead and several others so injured four of them had to be destroyed by vets who could do no more for them.

Each sheep costs around £700.

Mr Shrubsall, who is a judge and inspector for the Badger Face Welsh Mountain Sheep Society, said: "They are worth a lot of money to me, it's devastating. Showing these sheep was something I did as a family, with my wife and daughter.

"I am devastated at what has happened. We have spent years perfecting these blood lines and that has been destroyed in the space of 10 minutes.

"I doubt I will be able to breed from these sheep now because of what's happened.

"I want to get the message across to dog owners that they have a duty of care to keep their animals under control."

Insp Steve Griffiths from Kent Police said: "The law allows a farmer to act to protect his livestock. We are still investigating this incident and have yet to speak to the owner of the dogs."

Prize sheep killed during frenzied wild dog attack

SAVAGED:
One sheep lies dead as another sits bleeding from the attack



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Hero to take his place at Cenotaph



AT WORK: Capt Mc Ardle, left, specifies an objective in Helmand

A ROYAL Marine from Kent has been chosen to attend the Cenotaph in London for the annual Remembrance Sunday ceremony.

Afghanistan war hero Captain Christopher Mc Ardle, 24, from Cranbrook, was picked as second in command to Major Atkinson RM, along with a detachment of Royal Marines from 45 Commando, to represent the Brigade in Whitehall.

His unit, 45 Commando, based at HMS Condor, Arbroath, was deployed to the Sangin Valley in Helmand province, Afghanistan, in November, 2008, for a six-month tour of duty and returned to the UK at the end of April.

Capt Mc Ardle was involved in several actions, including one which resulted in the destruction of four drug factories.

Helmand province is the main area of poppy growing and drug production in Afghanistan, and is a particularly hostile, militant and dangerous region for the Western troops, with constant Taliban attacks, and concealed improvised explosive devices, or roadside bombs known as IEDs.

The officer was involved in regular hostile conflict and engagement with



ON LOCATION: Capt Mc Ardle (left) and fellow marines survey the area

the Taliban, and No. 4 Troop was the leading unit in the three-day Operation Ghartse-Palang which resulted in the capture of a Taliban Command post, a large cache of weapons and explosives, and the death of numerous Taliban fighters.

And during the six-day Operation Diesel, his men destroyed an enemy command and control and captured four narcotics factories and drugs with a street value of £50m.

Dozens of insurgents were killed.

Finally, two weeks before the end of his tour of duty, while he was on patrol, the leading Viking Armoured vehicle which the then Lt Mc Ardle was in detonated an IED which seriously damaged two vehicles.

The armour-plating protected the Marines inside. The only minor injury was to the driver's leg.

The Cenotaph ceremony will take place on Sunday, November 8.

Donors dig deep despite recession

THE recession may be affecting us all, but the generosity of the county's wealthiest residents appears unlikely to wane.

In the last financial year money donated by philanthropists and local businesses enabled the Kent Community Foundation to distribute more than £2.5 million to various worthy causes – a figure that is up on recent years despite the current state of the economy.

Generosity

The foundation – which also manages funds for organisations such as Sport Relief and the Allan Willett Foundation – has made more than 3,500 grants worth more than £10 million since its formation eight years ago.

Chief executive Eric Watts told KOS Media he expected the recession to have had more of a negative impact on people's generosity.

He said: "It's a most pleasant surprise but in recent years the concept of philanthropy has increased.

"There's been a rise in national awareness

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

as well as in Kent, and people now seem more prepared to allow their money to be distributed by other bodies. We help everybody from young carers through to community groups, people who are unwell and others who are in desperate need."

The Kent Community Foundation designs, manages and invests charitable funds on behalf of donors looking for a permanent and flexible way of giving to worthy causes.

All individuals have to do is decide who should benefit from the cash they are handing over, from a list of suggested recipients.

The donated money is not distributed straight away, and is instead left for months, and often years, to allow the interest to rise. The total value of funds managed by the foundation each year usually tops £6m.

Mr Watts said: "There are some people who donate a lot of money every year, like one person who does not want his or her

name in the market who donates £750,000.

"We obviously hope that will continue for years to come.

"But we will take any type of fund. Recently we took one for £25,000, which isn't major money but it all helps in putting something back into the community."

A new initiative which the foundation is keen to promote in Kent is the Government's Grassroots Scheme, which allows higher rate taxpayers to increase the value of a net donation by up to 245 per cent.

Match-funding

They can do this by claiming gift aid on their donations and by taking advantage of up to £1.6m in match-funding from the Government.

Mr Watts said the three-year scheme, which runs until March, 2011, should result in an increase in permanent endowed funds of £4.83m.

He added: "People won't see results for a couple of years. In the short term it's the joy of giving, but in the long term it's the joy of receiving for the people who will benefit."

Young set to quiz County Hall chiefs

YOUNGSTERS will be able to take their concerns to the top at a special event being staged at County Hall.

Kent's young people will grill a panel of Kent County Council cabinet members, and representatives of Kent Youth County Council, at an unusual question time on Wednesday.

Cabinet members on the panel include KCC leader Cllr Paul Carter; cabinet member for children, families and education, Cllr Sarah Hohler; and cabinet member for communities, Cllr Mike Hill. The event will be chaired by Dara Farrell, Kent Youth County Council member for Ashford, and the audience

will be made up of young people.

The panel can be quizzed on anything from local issues to national topics.

There will be a reception beforehand from 5-6pm, when the young people attending will be able to submit their questions before the session in the council chamber at 6pm.

The event gives Kent County Council Cabinet Members an opportunity to meet the county's younger residents and find out what their concerns and priority issues are.

Young people who would like attend, or submit questions, can contact the Kent Youth County Council at kycc@kent.gov.uk.

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By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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OLYMPIC preparations are well under way in Kent as the sporting world starts the 1,000-day countdown to London 2012.

Council leaders are determined to take advantage of the county's close proximity to the capital, and in late September the judo teams of Ukraine and Belarus became the first to agree to train in Kent in the build-up to and during the Games.

Youngsters at Tonbridge School and Tonbridge Judo Club will benefit from their presence in the months to come, while talks continue to attract more world-class athletes to the region.

Cllr Mike Hill – cabinet member for communities at Kent County Council – said he hoped to make more announcements in the near future.

He said: "To have Belarus and Ukraine on board already is a great success because they are serious judo nations and our young people will be able to learn from some very good athletes.

"It's good news for Kent that we can attract teams like that here. There are several others in the pipeline but I wouldn't like to say any more just yet because it's really quite delicate. We're hoping more will follow soon – so watch this space."

Part of the dividend of hosting teams in the run-up to the Olympics will be the chance for



OLYMPIC HEROES: As well as finding more Kent stars such as Jamie Staff, Lisa Dobriskey and Dame Kelly Holmes, it is hoped there will be a lasting legacy for sport in the county

the local community to watch training sessions, and even train alongside the world's best athletes.

It is hoped the countries that come to Kent will build lasting links as a result of the agreement, and help to inspire the gold medal winners of the future.

Last year the county was well represented at the Beijing Olympics, with cyclist Jamie Staff striking gold in the team sprint event and fellow Ashford resident Lisa Dobriskey narrowly missing out on a medal by finishing fourth in the 1500m final.

Professor Louis Passfield, head of the

Centre for Sports Studies at the University of Kent's Medway campus, said he hoped links with foreign teams would lead to even more success in the future: "I think in terms of inspiring youngsters and promoting and raising awareness of sporting opportunities that it's very important to have Olympic teams training in Kent.

"Not so much from an economic side because they're only here for a couple of weeks with some high-profile stars and then they're gone. What we hope will happen is that we'll build a strong relationship with teams so we can arrange special exchange

programmes that could really benefit students and young athletes. Perhaps that's where the future is."

When it was announced four years ago that London had won the right to host the 2012 Olympics, plans were almost immediately drawn up to build a 50-metre swimming pool in Canterbury.

However, those plans were shelved last year due to a lack of funding.

Cllr Hill, who is also a member of the Kent Campaign for the 2012 Games, said the county could still create a lasting legacy from the Olympics, even if it were not a physical one.

He explained: "We had hoped to benefit from some sort of major sports facility but the Government's initial promise for funding did not materialise.

"But now we hope our legacy will be the Kent School Games, which I'm delighted to see is being taken up nationally by the Conservatives.

"One of our main aims is to use the Olympics to encourage young people to take up competitive sports, which is something I feel we have lost our way in over the years."

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Held for the first time last year, the Kent School Games were a huge success and saw 30,000 young people compete in 38 sports and disability events.

Double Olympic gold-medallist Dame Kelly Holmes is among those to have publicly backed the biannual competition, calling for both Labour and the Tories to support the idea of a Schools Olympics.

Launching the 2010 Kent School Games in early October, she said: "There's nothing like it in the UK and I'm pushing for this to be replicated in other counties so we can have a national final in a national school games.

"It's at quite an early stage, but in the nearby counties such as Essex and Surrey they are very keen on the model because it is very good."

Away from the actual competitive aspect of the Games, KCC is also moving forward with other initiatives such as its involvement with the Cultural Olympiad and its attempts to have the Olympic torch carried through Dover as it was the last time the Games came to London in 1948.

The Centre for Sports Studies has also benefited from the hype surrounding the Games, with more than 300 students now working on undergraduate and post-graduate programmes.

September's intake was 140, marking an increase of 50 per cent on the previous year.

And as a senior member of British Cycling and trainer of a host of Olympic, world and Commonwealth gold medallists, Prof Passfield knows better than most what the spectacle is

all about. He said: "I think it means a huge amount for the athletes to be able to compete in front of a home crowd, and they will all want to put on the best possible show. They won't need any extra motivation.

"Before I came to the university I worked full-time for British Cycling and although I promised my time wouldn't be taken up by training, I'm sure I'll be involved in some way.

"Cycling is my sport and passion but I can't claim to be anywhere near as good as any of the guys I've worked with.

"They're the best in the world."



Club has sights set on being venue

DARTFORD Clay Shooting Club (DCSC) is appealing for the Government to save £20 million of taxpayers' money by moving the sport's Olympic venue to Kent.

Currently, Woolwich in south-east London will host the event in 2012,

despite criticism of how much it is costing to bring the site up to scratch and to build a 60-foot safety screen.

DCSC spokesman Richard Bailey said: "No other option can match the complete value-for-money package that is Dartford.

"Lord Coe can have his spectacular experience for the competitors and spectators while (London mayor) Boris Johnson can have a cheaper venue that leaves a sustainable legacy for the sport and the community."

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Helping men stop abusing

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A DOMESTIC abuse programme that allows violent partners to voluntarily refer themselves for help has won national praise.

The Kent Probation initiative aims to reduce the number of women who suffer at the hands of their husbands or boyfriends every year, while also bridging the gap between services for convicted and non-convicted offenders.

Justice minister Maria Eagle visited Maidstone this month to find out more about the 27-week programme, which has received highly commended plaudits at the National Justice Awards.

Among the people Miss Eagle met was Tonbridge resident Simon Jarvis (not his real name), who referred himself onto the scheme after he had lost his temper and hit his partner.

He said: "I was abusive to my partner both physically and verbally. I was always putting her down, telling her to leave and generally demeaning her. Though it is no excuse, my behaviour worsened when I drank alcohol.

"My partner was absolutely devastated and completely fell apart when I hit her the first time. She knew I had a bit of a temper but it had never come out in that way before.

"After I hit her I realised I didn't like the person I had become so I went to Relate (the counselling service) to see if I could rebuild my relationship.

"They told me about the Community

Domestic Abuse Programme (CDAP)."

According to Kent Probation, a quarter of all women in the UK have experienced domestic violence, and on average a woman will be assaulted 35 times by her partner before going to the police.

The CDAP is the first of its type in the country, offering an Alcoholics Anonymous-type service to offenders through role plays, workshops and study sessions.

Miss Eagle told KOS Media she was impressed by what she had seen of the programme, adding that it was a good example for other probation services to learn from.

She said: "Domestic abuse is not exclusive to any particular type of family or economic circumstance. It can happen in all walks of life, and so there needs to be understanding of where people can go for help.

Blinkers

"I think the fact men can refer themselves is very interesting, and it gives them the chance to change their behaviour before it gets too out of control. As for the people who are made to attend as part of their community order, it gives them 27 weeks to confront what they have done.

"Probation services like Kent's are delivering more than ever. There are now more than 5,000 offenders starting programmes in England and Wales, and that's got to be good."

When Mr Jarvis spoke to KOS Media he had just one session to go before completing the programme, and he was in no doubt as to the effect it has had on him.

He said: "Before the programme I had abusive blinkers on. I thought I was top dog but



in fact it made me see I was a weak person, and that hitting out does not make you the bigger person.

"My relationship with my partner is now a lot stronger. Last night we went out for a meal and I told her how I felt about my progress.

"She said she felt safer and able to open up without the fear of how I will react. She doesn't feel the need to cower down – if she feels something, she can say it.

"The programme, it is extremely beneficial for all involved. If you can change your behaviour and stop being abusive, that is a positive step for the men, their partners and for the families."

The CDAP is currently run in Folkestone, Tonbridge and Medway, with the Tonbridge programme including referrals from Maidstone.

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Your guide

to choosing the right NHS service if you become ill or are injured this winter.

If you become unwell or are injured this winter, a range of NHS services exist to help you get well.

Choosing the right one will ensure you receive the best possible treatment, allowing in-demand services to help those in need.

Why choose well?

During winter, more people get ill or are injured than at other times of the year.

This means that the services provided by the National Health Service (NHS) are needed more than ever.

This information will help you decide if you need medical attention if you get sick. It explains what each NHS service does, and when it should be used.

Choosing well means you will get the best treatment this winter. It also allows busy NHS services to help the people who need them most.

Useful information

There are some easy ways you can lower your risk of getting ill this winter:

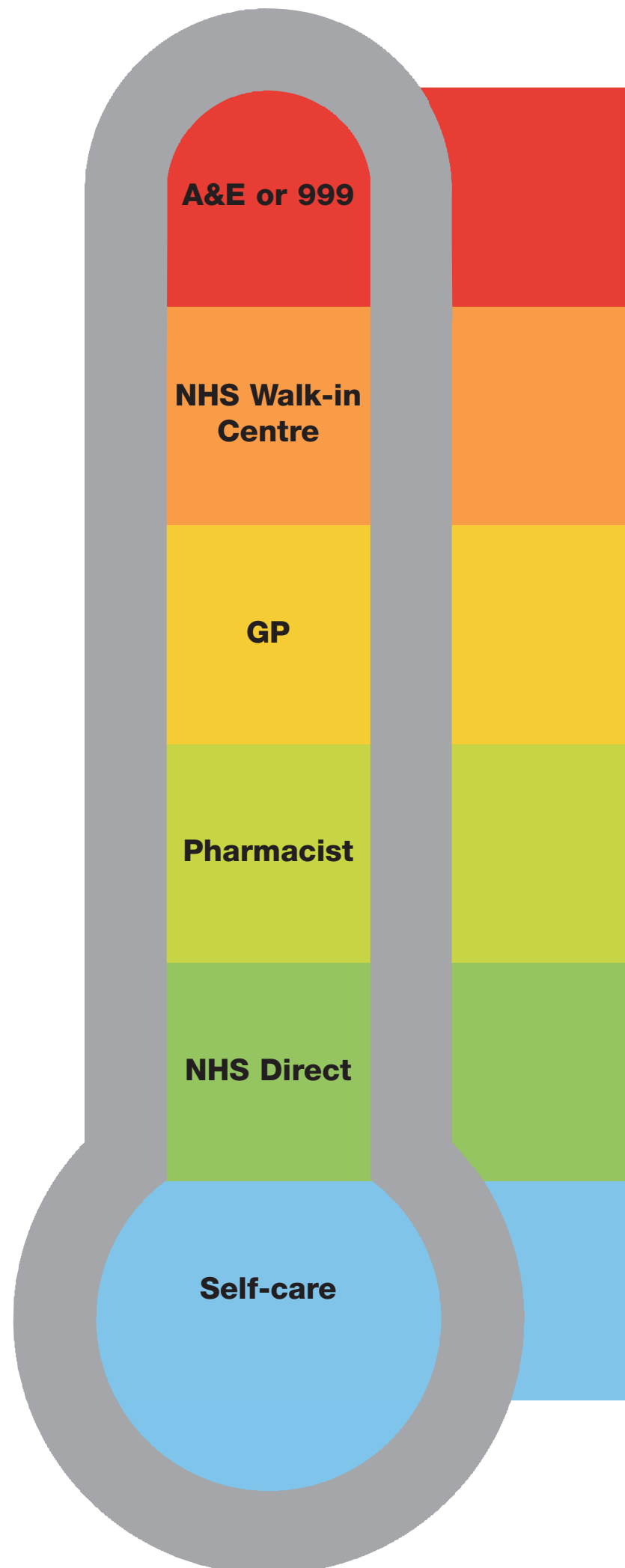
- When you cough or sneeze use a tissue, and then put it in the bin and wash your hands.
- Stay warm by making sure your home is heated, and by wearing lots of layers of clothing.
- Have many hot meals and drinks to keep your temperature and strength up.
- If you smoke, consider quitting to improve your circulation and general health. In case you do get ill, it is good to be prepared with essential medicines.
 - Paracetamol or aspirin.
 - Anti-diarrhoeal medicine.
 - Oral rehydration mixture.
 - Indigestion remedy.
 - Plasters.
 - A thermometer.

Remember, if you need any extra advice contact NHS Direct:

0845 4647

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

FREEVIEW channel 108, or page two on Sky Digital's interactive service.





**Choking.
Chest pain.
Blacking out.
Blood loss.**

A&E or 999

Accident and Emergency departments are found at most hospitals. They help people who show signs of being very ill or are badly injured.

If you telephone 999 and tell the operator that there is a medical emergency, a response vehicle will be sent to your location.

When and Why?

Emergency services are very busy. They should only be used in very serious or life-threatening situations.

Choosing well ensures that essential treatment is given, in the shortest possible time



**Cuts.
Strains.
Itches.
Sprains.**

NHS minor injuries units and walk-in centres

NHS minor injuries units and walk-in centres are located across eastern and coastal Kent.

They can treat minor illnesses and injuries and give you health advice. Most are open from early in the morning until late in the evening. You do not need an appointment, and will be seen by an experienced nurse.

When and Why?

Use your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre if you need medical treatment or advice which does not need a visit to A&E or a medical appointment.

Choosing well ensures you receive the best possible treatment, leaving emergency services to those who need them most.

For details of your local minor injuries unit or walk-in centre call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**



**Vomiting.
Ear pain.
Stomach ache.
Back ache.**

GP Surgery

GP surgeries can be found locally across eastern and coastal Kent. You can phone or make an appointment with a GP surgery for medical advice, examinations, and prescriptions.

In an emergency, a GP may also visit your home outside of opening hours – if you need this service telephone your local surgery and follow the recorded instructions.

When and Why?

Make an appointment with your local GP surgery when you have an illness or injury that will not go away this winter.

Choosing well ensures that you get the treatment you need, and reduces the demand on emergency services.

For details of your nearest GP surgery call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**



**Diarrhoea.
Runny nose.
Painful cough.
Headache.**

Pharmacist

Pharmacies can be found in local areas across eastern and coastal Kent.

Your local pharmacist can give you advice on common winter illnesses and the medicines you need to treat them.

When and Why?

Visit local pharmacy when you are suffering from a common winter health problem which does not require being seen by a nurse or doctor.

Choosing well ensures you get the treatment you need in the shortest possible time, reducing the pressure on essential NHS services

For details of your nearest pharmacy call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**



**Unwell?
Unsure?
Confused?
Need help?**

NHS Direct

NHS Direct offers confidential health advice and information by telephone, on the Internet and through digital TV, 24 hours a day.

Contact **NHS Direct** on **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk** FREEVIEW channel 108, or page two on Sky Digital's interactive service.

When and Why?

Contact NHS Direct if you are ill and have any questions about health. The service can also help you find health services in your local area.

Choosing well ensures you get expert advice in the shortest possible time, meaning busy NHS services can help those who need them most.



**Hangover.
Grazed knee.
Sore throat.
Cough**

Self-care

A lot of winter illnesses can be treated in your home by using medicine and getting plenty of rest.

When and Why?

Self-care is the best choice to treat very minor illnesses and injuries.

Choosing well ensures you receive the rest and recovery you need, meaning busy NHS services can help those who need them most. For advice on self care call **0845 46 47** or visit **www.nhsdirect.co.uk**

Evolution of a phobia

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

CHARLES Darwin is among nine famous hypochondriacs whose lives and illnesses are explored in a book nominated for a medical literature award.

When the great naturalist moved to Kent and bought Down House near Orpington in 1842, he hid himself away and it was here that he wrote his seminal work *On the Origin of Species*.

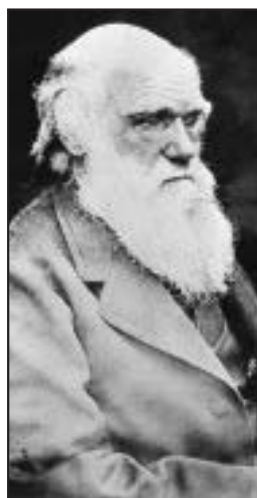
Brain Dillon, whose book *Tormented Hope: Nine Hypochondriac Lives* has been short-listed for the Wellcome Trust Book Prize, said that in a way Darwin's hypochondria – an abnormal anxiety about one's health – was instrumental to his achievements.

As a young man before his voyage on HMS Beagle, Darwin suffered terrible pains in his hands that no-one could explain, and he also worried about his nose.

"The captain of the Beagle did not like the look of his nose and almost did not allow him on the ship," said Dr Dillon, a research fellow at the school of English at the University of Kent. "He was a very sickly young man and quite early on seems to have these worries."

"The most interesting period was when he moved to Down House, and retreated into a very strange routine where his whole life revolved around illness."

"He organised his time and family around his illness. This enabled him to get on with his work. Once he moved to Kent he very



FEAR: Charles Darwin and Florence Nightingale feature in the book by Brian Dillon, centre

rarely travelled to London to the Royal Society and places, in a way he only achieved what he did because he was sick."

Dr Dillon said he chose his subject matter because of his own personal history with hypochondria.

His first book, *In The Dark Room*, was a memoir about the illness that manifested itself after the death of his parents at a relatively young age. He said that throughout his teens and as a young adult he had a tendency to worry he would be the next to die.

Now, having just turned 40, Dr Dillon said

he feels he is over his own hypochondria, although he said it did crop up while he was writing, but he was interested in the medical history of hypochondria, a term which dates back to ancient Greece.

"There are several really interesting famous cases," he said. "So I focused on a series of nine famous hypochondriacs."

"It was a way of thinking about the history of how we thought about our bodies and how this leads us into anxiety and fear."

"It is about the relationship between creativity, illness and fear."

Florence Nightingale is another famous hypochondriac featured, and on her return from the Crimean War suffered a nervous breakdown and symptoms including dreadful headaches and nausea.

"It is possible to be a hypochondriac and be really sick," Dr Dillon said. "The response to illness is just as interesting."

Like Darwin, she organised her work around her sickness.

The hypochondria of Andy Warhol, his fear of Aids in the early 80s and obsessive terror towards hospitals; and diarist Alice James, who eventually developed breast cancer and made the tragicomic assertion "to those who wait, all things come" is also explored in the book.

"While it is a terrible thing to suffer from, it tells us something about what it is to be human," Dr Dillon added.

"Almost a sort of philosophical message – it makes us, puts us in touch with our bodies, it might be in an unwelcome way but it is important."

The Wellcome Trust Book Prize was created to celebrate the best of medicine in literature and awards £25,000 a year for the finest fiction or non-fiction book centred around medicine. The winner will be announced on Wednesday, November 4.

Looking for a new property

See inside this weeks Review Magazine where you will find a selection of Kent's Premier Agents for:

- Residential Properties
- Exclusive Homes
- Lettings
- New Homes



also see

propertyforkent.co.uk



Award Winning Company

By **JON COATES**

A POLICE officer who killed a woman while on a 100mph "joyride" in his patrol car has been jailed for six-and-a-half years.

Malcolm Searles, 24, had left his police station while on duty to deliver an 18th birthday card to his sister in Swanley when he hit Sandra Simpson, 61, in August last year.

With blue lights flashing and sirens sounding on his marked police car, he repeatedly broke the speed limit as he drove through residential streets.

A court heard the on-board computer of his patrol car recorded him travelling at 104mph in a 40mph zone in a "prolonged course of dangerous driving lasting over an hour".

During this time Searles, of North View, Swanley, sped through "densely populated" housing estates where children were playing football on the pavements and parked cars lined both sides of the streets, reducing the traffic to single file.

The computer in his vehicle showed he was doing 56mph in a 30mph zone just seconds before he hit Mrs Simpson, who died from head and chest injuries.

She had been walking with her husband Peter in Homesdale Road, Bromley, on August 23 last year.

"Had he been driving at the legal limit he would have been able to stop," Michael Mulkeris, prosecuting, told the court.

The Met Police officer, who was based at Bromley police station, was charged after the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) investigated the fatal crash.

He was sacked from the Met in April following disciplinary action.

IPCC investigators found Searles had gone on the personal errand, while on duty, to his sis-

'Joyriding' cop jailed for death of 61-year-old in 100mph dash

ter's house in Swanley. He tried to lie his way out of trouble, claiming he had been following a speeding car he believed was stolen.

In a statement read to the court, Mrs Simpson's husband of 43 years, Peter, said his office receptionist wife "had been my whole world" and since her death he had contemplated suicide.

He said: "If I had known Mr Searles was rushing to save someone that night that would have been some consolation. But it was an accident waiting to happen from the moment he drove off."

Mrs Simpson also left a daughter Natasha, 32, and sons Darren, 28, Elliot, 22.

In sentencing at Southwark Crown Court on Monday, Judge Geoffrey Rivlin QC said Searles' driving had been "described as no

more than a dangerous and indeed, if I may say so, a hair-raising joyride."

Searles had pleaded guilty at an earlier court hearing to causing death by dangerous driving, dangerous driving and two counts of speeding.

Outside court, Mrs Simpson's son-in-law, Luke Brooks, said the family's "world fell apart" when they were told of the accident.

"As a family we are angry that Sandy was robbed of her golden years. She was in the prime of her life, a fit, healthy and young 61. Whatever the sentence passed, we do not feel it would be adequate in comparison to our loss.

"We hope that Searles' conviction and sentencing will cause other police officers to question their behaviour while driving."



KILLED: Sandra Simpson, 61

Children are told to brighten up

'BE Bright, Be Seen' is the message being given to children walking to and from school or near roads as the nights begin to draw in.

The campaign, run by Kent Highway Services and radio station Heart, aims to encourage children to attach a reflector to their school bag or coat to make them more visible to motorists.

Some 10,000 branded reflectors are being distributed to families and children across the county at various events, such as the Leeds Castle and Hop Farm fireworks shows, and Christmas lights switch-ons.

Kent residents, schools and clubs can also request bulk orders of reflective items at www.heartkent.co.uk.

For more information about the campaign go to www.kentroadsafety.info/walksafe.

Book your place at Seeda's AGM

THE South East England Development Agency (Seeda) is inviting people from the county to its annual open public meeting on Thursday, November 5.

The event is an opportunity for businesses, residents and stakeholders to hear about Seeda's work over the past year to combat the recession, and to ask questions about its vision for the future.

It will be chaired by Jim Brathwaite as he steps down from his role as chairman of Seeda after nearly seven years.

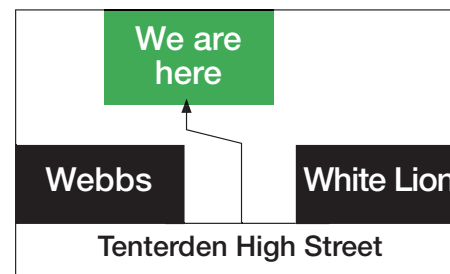
The meeting is at the Mandolay Hotel in Guildford, Surrey. To attend, email openmeeting@seeda.co.uk with your name and postal address, or call Corinne Jordan on 01483 470 181.

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In praise of humble pig, who gives us such variety

ONE particular four-legged friend, of the pink variety, has been served up an unfair helping of disparaging humour over the years.

If you haven't ever been called a 'swine' or a 'porker', then there's plenty more slurry slander out there.

Yet there's been something of a quiet pork revolution sizzling across the Garden of England, as Kent establishes its reputation as one of the free-range, pig-rearing capitals of Great Britain, with expertise in special breeds and rare breeds.

Produced in Kent's Julie Monkman is just one of many food and drink champions in the county who believes pork has suffered an unfair identity crisis, so the local produce champions are producing an information and recipe leaflet in November to celebrate Kent's amazing pork heritage.

She said: "How incredible that one animal can provide us with everything from a delicious Sunday roast with crackling, through gammon and ham, to the ever popular pork sausages and bacon.

"This protein-packed meat is lower in fat than ever before and also happens to be packed with B vitamins, minerals and is low in salt."

One of the biggest 'flying pig' misnomers is that all pork is fatty. Undoubtedly, some breeds are fatter than others, as are some cuts of the pig – such as pork belly – but overall the fat content of pigs has plummeted over the past three decades, thanks

From bacon to belly, pork is one of the most versatile meats, and Kent farmers are focusing on rare breeds, with tasty, healthier results

to modern farming techniques. Thirty years ago, pigs provided only about 47 per cent lean meat, but now the average pig provides just over 60 per cent lean meat.

Whilst Britain has a high proportion of the leading pig breeders in the world, Kent is proving one of the leading regions for free-range pigs and rare breeds. But why does free range matter? Bev Brown, who runs Roundwood Orchard Pig Company in Meopham with her husband Chris, says free range is essential in her book.

"All our Roundwood pigs live free range on a fruit farm and animal welfare is hugely important. What many people don't realise is that pigs are very intelligent and mischievous, and love nothing more than to roam free in amongst the fruit orchard. We don't castrate our pigs, we don't clip their teeth and nails, and we never inject them with anything."

She says pigs are very like dogs and wear their hearts on their sleeves: "Pigs wag their tails when they are happy, and drop them when sad. If they are frightened or distressed they make a barking noise," she said.

"The rare breeds have wonderful flavours, but the pure large white pigs give the leanest, lowest fat meat, so Roundwood combines the best of both worlds, breeding speciality breeds that bring together large white boars with Saddlebacks and Oxford, Sandy & Black rare breeds – both of which make fantastic mothers. Everything is dry-cured, which gives a better flavour and means that the meat isn't full of water. The Roundwood range is available from numerous farmer's markets and Broomfield Farm Shop, Meopham."

Snoad Farm, run by Julie Murray, in Otterden, near Faversham, produces free-range pork and sausages, which are available from Faversham Farmers' Market every Saturday. Snoad only breeds Oxford, Sandy & Blacks, and Julie is also deeply committed to the free range heritage in Kent.

"Happy pigs are tasty pigs and we give our pigs a quality life, with most of their lives spent outside," she said. "The pigs are slaughtered at the ultimate weight with a decent fat coverage, which you need to give the pork good flavour, but reflecting the needs and tastes of today's fat-conscious consumers."

Marsh Produce, based at Romney Marsh, is committed to six rare breeds and a free range ethos. Run by Clive and Deborah Ovenden, there are plans to open a number of farm shops in February 2010, in Brooklands and Brayburn.

"Rare breeds really are unique," says Clive. "The pigs are slower growing and fed with natural feeds of home-grown wheat."



Celebrate sausage week with our tasty pasta supper dish

TO CELEBRATE British Sausage Week, here is a recipe to get your tastebuds tingling.

All the ingredients can be bought direct from www.Foodforkent.co.uk - your one-stop shop for locally produced and sourced food and drink.

Just be warned...this recipe is dangerously addictive!

Time - 20 minutes
Serves - 2

4 Chandler & Dunn local pork sausages
1 onion
1 clove of garlic
1 sprig rosemary
1 handful parmesan
150-200g spaghetti
1 glass of Chapel Down white wine

Heat a little Chapel Press rapeseed oil in a heavy-based pan. Finely slice the onion and garlic, add to the oil and soften for 4-5 minutes.

Meanwhile take the skins off the sausages and break up the meat. Add it to the onion and cook until browned.

Very finely chop the rosemary and add to the sausage mixture with the wine. Cook for a further 10 minutes.

Whilst this is slowly reducing, cook the pasta to al dente - no more!

Drain the pasta and combine with the sausage mixture, throw in the parmesan and toss together.

• Find all the ingredients on www.Foodforkent.co.uk. And remember, by buying direct, you are investing in the local producers in your community and protecting the rural way of life.



Win a Christmas hamper

Produced in Kent has just published an information, recipe and competition leaflet, with the chance to win a Cracking Christmas Box for the festive season.

The free leaflets will be in butchers, farm shops and restaurants across the county during November to coincide with British Sausage Week (November 2-6).

Some Produced in Kent members will also be running sausage tastings, events and money-off promotions during the first week of November, so find out more by visiting www.producedinkent.co.uk



foodforkent.co.uk

We are committed to adding more local suppliers to our online service and any local business or producer that wishes to join our campaign should contact us at foodforkent.co.uk or email us at feedback@kosmedia.co.uk

READER OFFER

Find your inner kalm

RELAX your way through a 20 per cent discount at Kalmora Spa and claim a free gift worth £17.

The spa is situated in the peaceful and breathtaking countryside, on the outskirts of the quaint village of Goudhurst.

Kalmora Spa opened in 2005 as part of the Kalmora Spa Group, which has spas situated within Debenhams Plymouth and Browns in Chester.

This outlet is found in the heart of the Kent countryside, allowing total relaxation and seclusion from the bustling outside world, so

you can truly drift away and enjoy your unique spa experience, essential for body and mind refreshment and restoration.

An intimate and exclusive spa, it can cater for the individual, or for parties of up to six people on a Spa Retreat day, thus allowing for complete client focus and tranquillity.

It is the first of its kind to offer the complete range of mineral water therapies to promote sheer relaxation and skin harmony, leaving you looking and feeling replenished from head to toe, and totally at peace.

Signature treatments include the world's first hydrofloatation therapy pool, floating in mineral-rich Dead Sea waters to induce a positive and truly calm mental state, and an inner fulfilment, thus acting as the perfect antidote to stress, tiredness and muscle and joint aches.

Kalmora Spas also offer a luxurious range of Spa Retreat packages including the Kalmora Bride and Bridal Party, the Kalmora Detox Kickstart and the Kalmora Mum-to-be. For more details of the treatments available see the website www.kalmoraspaspa.com.

Kalmora Spas would like to offer readers an amazing discount of 20 per cent on any Spa Find Treatments plus a free cranberry salt brushing gift worth £17.

This offer is for one promotional booking per reader and is valid until November 30, 2009.

To take advantage of this great offer call 01580 212953.



New alarm was a real life-saver

AN ELDERLY couple had a lucky escape from their blazing home when they were alerted to flames by a smoke alarm fitted just weeks earlier.

The device was installed free of charge in the property in Sandhurst Road, on the Sherwood Estate, Tunbridge Wells, as part of Kent Fire and Rescue Service's efforts to get smoke alarms fitted in every home.

Two fire engines were sent to the property in the early hours of Tuesday, October 27, after the couple – who had been smoking in bed – failed to properly extinguish cigarettes which then set light to paper in a bin.

Farm burglary

POLICE are investigating a burglary at Hever Castle Stud Farm.

The break-in happened between Sunday, October 25, and the following day. The thieves escaped with 20 bags of horse feed and a brown leather head collar removed from a horse.

Officers say it is possible the thieves got in by driving across neighbouring fields.

Core of the float

STUDENTS and staff from the floristry department at Hadlow College have started to decorate The Worshipful Company of Fruiterers' float for the Lord Mayor's Show.

The theme celebrates the 200th anniversary of the Bramley apple and depicts its journey from tree to table. More than 5,000 will be distributed during the procession in the London on Saturday, November 14.

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COMMENT

Offender register a tool to be used

ON THE face of it, a 50 per cent rise in the number of registered sex offenders in Kent seems a worrying statistic.

After all, having just one rapist or paedophile living among us is one too many, let alone having more than 1,000.

Thankfully, this dramatic increase does not mean there are more sexual offences being committed. What it does mean is more of those committing them are being monitored than ever before, and that is to be welcomed.

Victims of sex crimes often find it impossible to come to terms with what they have been put through, so it is right the police and probation service should do all they can to reduce the chances of re-offending.

The sex offenders' register is a useful tool, but the increase in the number of people signed onto it demonstrates the importance of freeing up enough police time to cope.

It's all well and good knowing where a rapist lives, but unless you have the ability to keep a close eye on him the information is useless.

Golden chances

IT SEEMS like only yesterday Lord Coe and chums celebrated the news that London had won the right to stage the 2012 Olympics.

Actually it was more than four years ago, and yesterday marked the 1,000-day countdown to England's most eagerly-anticipated event since Euro 96.

The next few months and years will fly by just as quickly and hopefully Kent can benefit from what will surely be a splendid Olympics.

OPINION:

WE felt compelled to put pen to paper and respond to your article of October 10, Power struggle in the classroom – teachers' concern over how to punish unruly pupils.

We are sure lots of people read the article with great interest and continued, like many, to put the blame onto the children themselves. We would like to suggest another perspective.

Take a look at the majority of the 'problem' children. Are they really problem children or are they just totally misunderstood and expected to learn in an environment where they as individuals, just cannot learn and therefore become disruptive? Maybe they are from an environment in which disruptive and destructive behaviour is all they know?

The generations today are the first in the history of mankind, where interaction with nature has not been an integral part of their childhood and indeed family lives. We need to consider what we as adults have indeed done to our children over the recent years and yes, we need to sit up and take some responsibility and do something about it.

When were these problem children last taken out to the park to play; or encouraged to visit a nature reserve; or taken camping to enjoy all the wonders of sitting around a camp fire?

Education's only natural

CLAIR HOBSON says it's high time we took our children back to nature

When were they last given an opportunity to have some peaceful time in a natural environment, away from the distractions of the modern, pressurised world?

To answer these questions, probably very few occasions were created for them to enjoy the natural world. The occasional school field trip is probably all they have – although they may well be excluded due to their unruly classroom behaviour – which is a shame as those are the children who need it most. Primary school children probably have more opportunities, but in senior school, the emphasis is on seemingly 'more important things'.

Children growing up without exposure to nature as a part of their upbringing continue the cycle with their own children. Child obesity, ADHD, depression, behaviour problems and aggression are all now being directly linked to a lack of interaction with the natural environment.

As a society we need to get back to the drawing board and take responsibility and put experiential nature on the curriculum. Not just learning about nature in

the classroom, but opportunities for all children and young people to experience the amazing natural world for themselves.

One book had a profound effect on my partner Scott and myself, Last Child in the Woods – Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder by Richard Louv. This is the first book to bring together a body of research indicating that direct experiences within the natural world are essential for healthy childhood development and for our physical and emotional health.

We felt we had to do something, and spent several years gaining qualifications before forming EarthCraftuk Ltd – reconnecting people with the natural world.

We have introduced troubled teenagers to woodland activities on a regular basis through our Forest Schools programmes. On occasion teachers have highlighted who we have to watch out for... however, it's quite a different story when the children are engaged fully in the activities.

The positive results and outcomes, speak for themselves.

Forest Schools programmes



consist of regular sessions in our 300 acre ancient woodland environment (courtesy of the Dawes family of Mount Ephraim Gardens) with qualified instructors.

The setting allows a flexible approach to learning that can accommodate a range of styles.

Everyone learns best when they have a good variety of deep level learning opportunities to allow them to explore their abilities and use their full range of senses. Research has shown that attending Forest Schools programmes has a positive effect on children's confidence, self-esteem and independence, as well as increasing their emotional intelligence, physical and social skills.

So, as adults, let's get back to the drawing board and take some responsibility.

Scott and I are convinced, if there was more emphasis on nature than league tables, we would see a turn around in many children. We know what we are doing about it – what are you?

• **Clair Hobson and Scott Woolsgrove run EarthCraftuk Ltd – The Classroom without Walls.**

INVESTING IN THE PEOPLE OF KENT

www.kentcf.org.uk



Some of the recipients of grants and awards (from top left)

Lewis March, Reculver; Saheli Writers, Gravesend Pier; Royal School for the Deaf, Margate; Abbey Physic Community Garden, Faversham; Highways at Hamstreet, Folkestone Leas; Herne Bay Roller Hockey, Herne Bay.

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Since 2001, Kent Community Foundation has distributed over £10 million in over 4,500 grants to voluntary groups, charities, organisations and individuals benefiting literally thousands of individuals across Kent. This has been made possible by the generosity and support of a growing number of private and corporate Fund-Holders and Foundation Members who have recognised the benefits of giving through Kent Community Foundation.

Patron: Allan Willett CMG, Lord Lieutenant of Kent
Chairman: Peter Hardy
The 245% increase is based on a net personal donation by a higher rate tax payer (40%) and matched by Government's Office of the Third Sector Grassroots Endowment Match Challenge.

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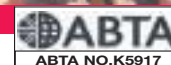
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Holiday industry cruising through troubled waters

FOR years now, the cruise business has been growing, and there is no end in sight to the expansion.

With the launch of an astonishing 10 major ships, there is no sign of the bubble bursting, said the bible for all cruise information, discovercruises.co.uk.

Despite 2009 being one of the most challenging years on record for the wider holiday market, it found the UK cruise industry is bucking the trend and continues to grow.

Interest

Figures just released at The Travel Convention in Barcelona show an impressive five per cent increase in the number of British holidaymakers taking a cruise this year, compared to 2008.

William Gibbons of the Passenger Shipping Association said a record 1.5 million Brits will have taken a cruise in 2009 and predicted further strong growth in the years ahead as consumer interest in cruising remains at an all-time high.

He said: "The difficult economic climate has made this year a very testing time for our members, but the exceptional value offered by a cruise holiday has been reflected in continued record growth.



"The two key drivers remain value and quality. The all-inclusive nature of cruising and the very high standards of quality, innovation and customer service have made cruising a com-

peting and mainstream holiday choice.

"This trend will continue into 2010, when we forecast a 6.5 per cent increase to 1.65 million passengers. This significant growth will come

about with the introduction of new ships dedicated to the UK market – P&O Cruises' Azura, Cunard's Queen Elizabeth and Celebrity Cruises' Celebrity Eclipse.

"We will also see Cruise & Maritime introduce a second ship, Ocean Countess, and Royal Caribbean International providing a year-round service from Southampton with Independence of the Seas.

"US companies are also making a commitment to the UK market, including Holland America Line who, for the first time, are introducing full-length cruises out of Dover.

Excitement

"There's now a sustained interest and excitement in cruising, which will be reinforced next month with the introduction of the largest-ever cruise ship by Royal Caribbean International with Oasis of the Seas."

A number of factors have contributed to the projected record number of passengers in 2009, including P&O Cruises' Ventura and Fred. Olsen's Balmoral both being in service for a full year.

MSC and Costa Cruises also introduced new large ships and there has been investment in the ultra-luxury sector with new ships from Yachts of Seabourn and Silversea.

Thomson, Island Cruises and Royal Caribbean have also shown strong growth as the popularity of fly-cruises continues.

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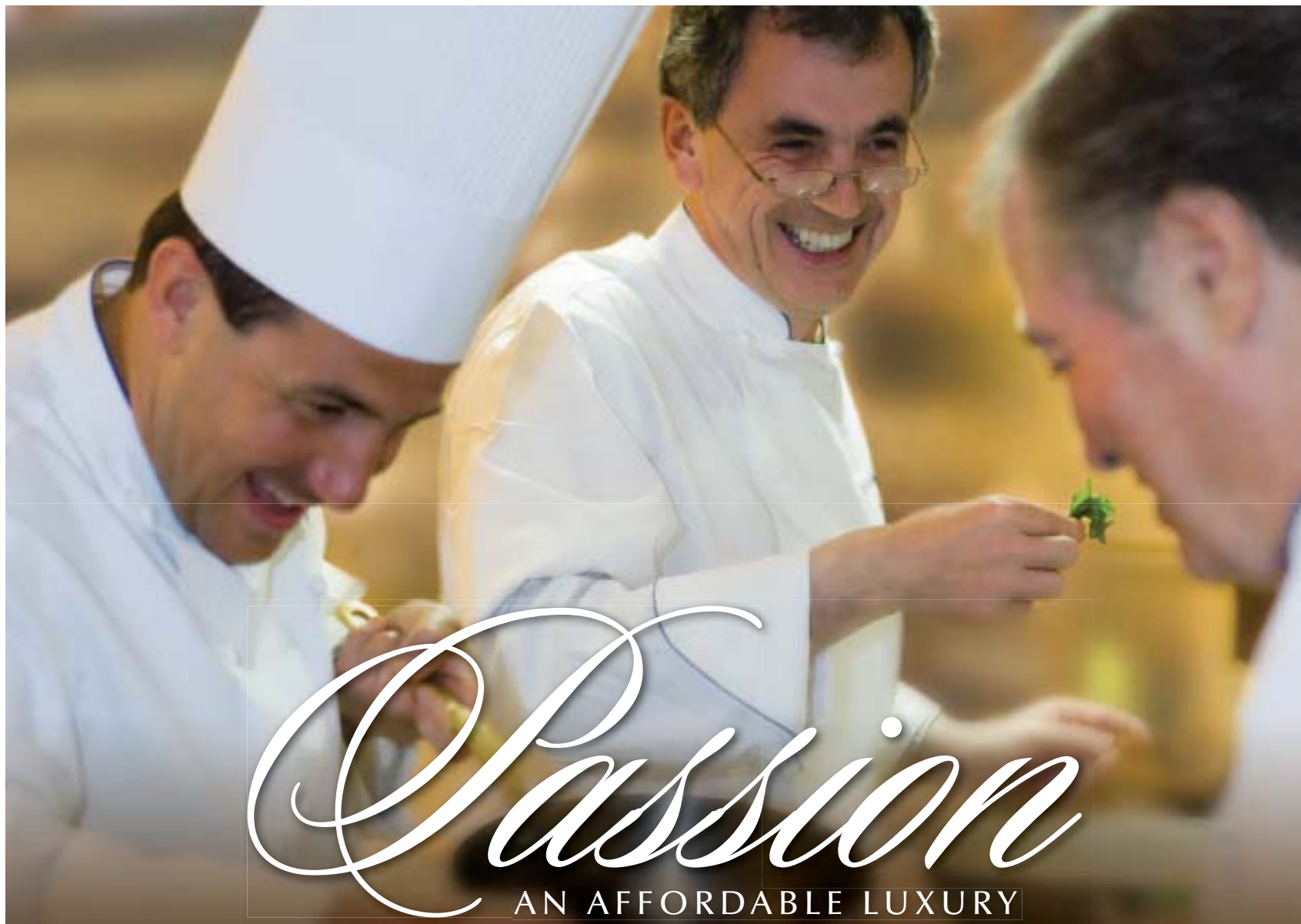
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Sit back, relax and enjoy living life in the slow lane

FLYING is all very well, but with so many people cramped into such a tiny space eating airline food and watching a tiny TV screen for entertainment, it's no wonder more and more are looking for something new.

And by new, we mean something almost as old as transport itself – the cruise.

While many may scoff at the slow pace of actually getting anywhere, cruise lovers will be at pains to tell you that's the point.

They are designed to be relaxing – an idle way to see the whole world, and why not throw in some luxury along the way, too.

Those who have tried a cruise holiday invariably return for more of the same, and many become great fans of a particular operator.

Those who come back usually invest in longer itineraries and higher-grade accommodation, and travel to what may be more adventurous destinations, say the experts.

Often, people who have never taken a cruise will conjure up lots of excuses as to why they will not consider taking one.

Yet with today's modern and spacious ships, diverse itineraries, a multitude of dining options and ample entertainment, a cruise offers more space, interest and variety than most land-based options.

The key features of a cruise speak for themselves. These include many exciting destinations in one holiday, or the unrivalled service, plus fine dining every evening, sumptuous al fresco buffets, state-of-the-art spa facilities, exciting excursions, a different view everyday and professional entertainment for all ages.

Variety

These factors that are hard to ignore. Those in the know say no other holiday can possibly provide such variety, lifestyle and value for money.

It is not surprising that thousands of first-time cruisers book their second holiday at sea as soon as they get home.

There are ships and cruise styles to meet and exceed all expectations. Educational holidays on smaller and more intimate ships, such as those with Voyages of Discovery and Swan Hellenic, provide lectures and presentations by learned speakers, including celebrities, writers and other media personalities.

Here passengers are prepared for each port of call, so that they can make the most of their precious time ashore.

There are dozens of theme cruises that allow the traveller to enjoy their favourite hobby or interest when on the ship and ashore. These voyages often involve excursions that continue the theme.

Many couples join a cruise and go their separate ways while on board, each making the most of the diverse list of activities. Families tend to divide and branch out to pursue their varied interests, meeting later over lunch or dinner to share their new experiences.

Classical music, golf, acting, computer classes, art, cooking, photography and wine tasting are just a few of the hundreds of activities that take place during the holiday.

On a land-based holiday, the room at a hotel is normally allocated on arrival and sea views are often obstructed by vegetation, buildings or pool surroundings.

First-time cruisers are usually impressed that they are able to choose their accommodation, right down to the stateroom number, at the time of booking.

This is a great bonus, as a sea view is guaranteed from every balcony. The comprehensive

Your holiday starts the minute you set foot aboard your floating hotel



deck plans found in every brochure will ensure the traveller knows exactly where they will be staying in relation to the location of the nightclub, theatre, restaurant and swimming pool.

Many people considering a cruise for the first time are concerned about the never-ending flow of food offered on a ship. Again, the quality of the dining experience, in the presentation, service standards and in the food itself must not be ignored.

No-one suggests that all five courses should be taken at dinner, especially if there is a West End-style show to be seen in the theatre.

Attending the midnight buffet is not compulsory, and the food is often photographed more than eaten.

Most of the finest and most enjoyable dining experiences focus on the high quality of the food and the immaculate presentation, rather than the quantity. Value for money is key in holidaymakers' plans. It is here that the cruise always excels.

Those who normally take a land-based holiday are advised to check exactly how much has been spent on previous trips. All those extra snacks, the seaweed supplements, entertainment and sports activities soon add up.

With so many accommodation categories, it is possible to budget for a cruise more easily. Some may choose a lower category stateroom and allow more for shore excursions. Others may prefer to put money aside for the casino

and hope to make a fortune, while others will want to be pampered in the spa.

Cruising allows the traveller to tailor-make their plans, making optimum use of the available budget while ensuring a unique holiday experience.

Most first-time cruisers prefer a port-intensive itinerary. These usually include just one day at sea which is often near the start of the holiday, giving the passenger time to find their way around the ship and become acquainted with the variety of services and amenities on board.

Popular

River cruises are also worth considering for those who are cautious. Not only do they offer value for money but there are often two or three calling points each day, giving plenty of opportunities for sightseeing and exploration.

Few people have returned from the Rhine, Danube or Nile without wanting to cruise again.

Coastal cruising is also popular for first timers, especially to Norway or around the British Isles. The Adriatic coast of Croatia and Montenegro is another favourite, and will not fail to impress.

Many first-time cruisers prefer the British-orientated lifestyle of P&O Cruises, Thomson Cruises or Fred. Olsen Cruise Line. Others choose a fly-cruise and combine a holiday at

sea with a week or so in a Mediterranean resort before or after the cruise. This is a particularly worthwhile solution for couples or families who would prefer the best of both worlds.

Others seek the chic and often informal nature of European cruising, offered by the Italian operators MSC Cruises and Costa Cruises.

Both provide, among others, Mediterranean fly-cruises, usually from an Italian port. It is possible to sail to the North Sea and Baltic Sea with these operators from a UK port, usually Dover.

Those seeking plenty of sports and social activity may choose one of the larger Royal Caribbean Line ships. Independence of the Seas has become extremely popular among British guests, especially as there are regular sailings from Southampton.

A party atmosphere prevails, and everyone is impressed by the spectacular ice-skating shows, world-class dining and enormous variety of pool activities, especially at the wave surfing venue.

Like many operators, including Fred. Olsen Cruise Line and Cunard Line, RCL offers mini cruises, giving those considering their first holiday at sea the chance to test the experience. Many decide to book their next trip while on board. It is not long before they become cruise fans.

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Venice *overnight*

FARES FROM	STANDARD FARE	SPECIAL OFFER FARE
Veranda Stateroom	\$4,874	\$3,874
Ocean View Stateroom	3,874	2,874
Inside Stateroom	3,574	2,574

Fares are cruise-only including all taxes

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Helsinki • Stockholm *overnight*

FARES FROM	STANDARD FARE	SPECIAL OFFER FARE
Veranda Stateroom	\$5,549	\$4,549
Ocean View Stateroom	4,549	3,549
Inside Stateroom	4,149	3,149

Fares are cruise-only including all taxes

Yacht Havens



ROME TO BARCELONA 10-DAY VOYAGE

June 17, 2010 onboard *Insignia*

Rome (Civitavecchia) • Bonifacio (Corsica)
Cinque Terre (Portovenere) • Provence (Marseille)
Cannes • Portofino • Olbia/Porto Cervo (Sardinia)
Saint-Tropez • Sanary-sur-Mer • Sète • Barcelona

FARES FROM	STANDARD FARE	SPECIAL OFFER FARE
Veranda Stateroom	\$4,149	\$3,149
Ocean View Stateroom	3,449	2,449
Inside Stateroom	3,149	2,149

Fares are cruise-only including all taxes

Classical Delights



BARCELONA TO VENICE 14-DAY VOYAGE

July 10, 2010 onboard *Nautica*

Barcelona • Palma de Mallorca • Provence (Marseille)
Monte Carlo • Portofino • Florence/Pisa (Livorno)
Cinque Terre (La Spezia) • Rome (Civitavecchia)
Sorrento/Capri • Amalfi/Positano • Taormina
Corfu • Korcula • Venice *overnight*

FARES FROM	STANDARD FARE	SPECIAL OFFER FARE
Veranda Stateroom	\$5,839	\$4,839
Ocean View Stateroom	4,839	3,839
Inside Stateroom	4,439	3,439

Fares are cruise-only including all taxes

Majestic Mosaic



LISBON TO ROME 12-DAY VOYAGE

August 24, 2010 onboard *Insignia*

Lisbon • Tangier • Seville (Cádiz)
Málaga • Alicante • Ibiza • Barcelona
Saint-Tropez • Cannes • Monte Carlo • Portofino
Florence/Pisa (Livorno) • Rome (Civitavecchia)

FARES FROM	STANDARD FARE	SPECIAL OFFER FARE
Veranda Stateroom	\$4,994	\$4,494
Ocean View Stateroom	3,994	3,494
Inside Stateroom	3,694	3,194

Fares are cruise-only including all taxes

Black Sea Serenade



ISTANBUL TO ATHENS 12-DAY VOYAGE

August 29, 2010 onboard *Nautica*

Istanbul *overnight* • Nessebur • Constanta
Odessa • Sevastopol • Sinop
Trabzon • Sochi • Yalta
Kusadasi • Athens (Piraeus)

FARES FROM	STANDARD FARE	SPECIAL OFFER FARE
Veranda Stateroom	\$4,994	\$3,994
Ocean View Stateroom	3,994	2,994
Inside Stateroom	3,694	2,694

Fares are cruise-only including all taxes



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* Conditions apply

Dover Departures

Celtic Spring (M1010) - 20 May 2010 for 9 nts

Dover, Dartmouth - England, Tresco - Isles of Scilly, Dublin - Ireland, Belfast - Northern Ireland, Stornoway - Scotland, Kirkwall - Scotland, Invergordon - Scotland, Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £759**

Mediterranean Charm (L1005) - 22 May 2010 for 22 nts

Dover - Gibraltar - Cagliari - Scenic Cruise Isola Vulcano - Cruise Strait of Messina - Messina, Sicily - Piraeus - Volos - Thessaloniki - Kavala - Valletta - Elvissa - La Coruna - Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £1,709**

Summer Fjords (L1006) - 13 June 2010 for 7 nts

Dover, Bergen - Norway, Olden - Norway, Flam - Norway, Vik - Norway, Farsund - Norway, Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £659**

Baltic Beauty (L1007) - 20 June 2010 for 12 nts

Dover, Kiel Canal Transit - Brunsbüttel, Kiel Canal Transit - Holtenau, Kiel - Germany, Tallinn - Estonia, St. Petersburg - Russia, Helsinki - Finland, Stockholm - Sweden, Copenhagen - Denmark, Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £1,049**

Gateway to the Arctic (L1008) - 2 July 2010 for 15 nts

Dover, Narvik - Norway, Honningsvåg - Norway, Cruise Bear Island - Svalbard, Ny Alesund - Svalbard, Cruise Magdalenefjord - Svalbard, Longyearbyen - Svalbard, Tromsø - Norway, Bergen - Norway, Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £1,369**

The French Collection (M1016) - 21 July 2010 for 8 nts

Dover, Amsterdam, Netherlands, Antwerp, Belgium, L'Orient, France, St. Malo, France, St. Peter Port - Guernsey, Honfleur - France, Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £659**

Canary Islands Cruise (M1017) - 29 July 2010 for 14 nts

Dover - Leixoes, Portugal - Arrecife, Lanzarote, Canary Islands - Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Canary Islands - San Sebastian La Gomera, Canary Islands - Santa Cruz de la Palma, Canary Islands - Funchal, Madeira - Vigo, Spain - Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £1,069**

Western Mediterranean (L1011) - 7 August 2010 for 14 nts

Dover - Gibraltar - Cartagena - Livorno - Ajaccio - Eivissa - Lisbon - Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £1,099**

Iberia (M1019) - 19 August 2010 for 8 nts

Dover - Fowey, England - Leixoes, Portugal - La Coruna, Spain - Bilbao, Spain - La Pallice, France - Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £649**

French Flirt Mini Cruise (M1020) - 27 August 2010 for 3 nts

Dover - St. Peter Port, Guernsey - Honfleur, France - Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £269**

Norway Fjords Cruise (L1014) - 28 August 2010 for 12 nts

Dover - Amsterdam, Netherlands - Invergordon, Scotland - Stavanger, Norway - Eidfjord, Norway - Skjolden, Norway - Olden, Norway - Molde, Norway - Andalsnes, Norway - Bergen, Norway - Antwerp, Belgium - Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £999**

Inspiring Italy (M1022) - 6 September 2010 for 16 nts

Dover - Gibraltar - Cagliari, Sardinia - Scenic Cruise Capri - Naples - Civitavecchia - Livorno - Portoferraio - Almeria - Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £1,399**

Adriatic (L1016) - 21 September 2010 for 21 nts

Dover - Gibraltar - Cagliari, Sardinia - Cruise Aeolian Islands - Cruise Straits of Messina - Brindisi - Venice - Split - Kotor - Palma, Mallorca - Cadiz - Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £1,659**

Treasures of the Tsars (M1023) - 22 September 2010 for 13 nts

Dover, Copenhagen - Denmark, Visby - Sweden, Turku - Finland, Helsinki - Finland, St. Petersburg - Russia, Szczecin - Poland, Sassnitz - Germany, Brunsbüttel - (Kiel Canal Transit), Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £1,029**

Canaries Collection (M1024) - 5 October 2010 for 13 nts

Dover, Funchal - Madeira, Santa Cruz de la Palma - Canary Islands, Santa Cruz de Tenerife - Canary Islands, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Arrecife - Lanzarote, Lisbon - Portugal, Dover

Ship: Braemar — **From £969**

Eastern Mediterranean (L1018) - 26 October 2010 for 23 nts

Dover, Gibraltar, Cagliari - Sardinia, Kalamata - Greece, Piraeus - Greece, Volos - Greece, Izmir - Turkey, Marmaris - Turkey, Antalya - Turkey, Rhodes - Greece, Valletta - Malta, Cadiz - Spain, Lisbon - Portugal, Dover

Ship: Balmoral — **From £1,599**

Other Departures

Cuba and the Caribbean (M1005) - 4 March 2010 for 14 nts

Fly - Bridgetown - Castries - Philipsburg - Grand Turk - Santiago de Cuba - Oranjestad - Willemstad - Maracaibo - St. George's - Bridgetown - Fly

Ship: Braemar — **From £1,269**

Lima to Sydney Cruise (L110123) - 26 January 2011 for 29 nts

Fly - Callao, Peru - Nuku Hiva, Marquesas Islands - Rangiroa, Tuamotu Archipelago - Papeete, Tahiti - Rarotonga, Cook Islands - Crossing International Date Line - Auckland, New Zealand - Wellington, New Zealand - Akorua, New Zealand - Dunedin, New Zealand - Sydney, Australia

Ship: Balmoral — **From £2,529**

Singapore to Southampton (L110141) - 20 March 2011 for 34 nts

Fly - Singapore - Phuket, Thailand - Cochin, India - Goa, India - Mumbai, India - Dubai, UAE - Salalah, Oman - Safaga, Egypt - Port Tewfik, Egypt - Cruise Suez Canal, Egypt - Alexandria, Egypt - Valletta, Malta - Gibraltar - Southampton

Ship: Balmoral — **From £2,419**



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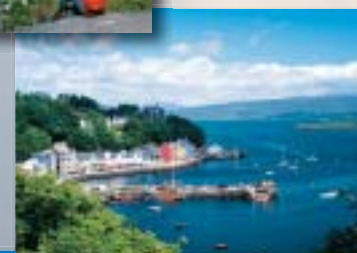
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Marco Polo sails from London Tilbury

Marco Polo	Cruise	Nights	Departs	Inner Cabin	Outer Cabin
	Bulbfields Weekend Mini Cruise	3	29 April 2010	£199	£299
	Galic Discovery	6	23 April 2010	£379	£579
	British Isles Discovery	9	8 May 2010	£599	£899
	NEW Iberian Highlights	11	12 April 2010	£999	£999
	North Cape & Midnight Sun	12	10 June 2010	£899	£1199
	NEW Canary Islands & Madeira	12	16 Oct 2010	£899	£1199
	The West Indies	30	2 Jan 2010	£1499	£1999

From prices per person based on sharing a Twin Cabin. Other cruises and cabin types available - further details on request / in the brochure.

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Cruise	Nights	Departs	Inner Cabin	Outer Cabin	
Springtime Fjordland	6	20 April 2010	£379	£579	
Iberian Highlights	11	8 Oct 2010	£779	£1079	
Canary Island & Madeira	12	19 Oct 2010	£899	£1099	
Iceland & Northern Isles	12	12 July 2010	£899	£1149	
Baltic Treasures & St Petersburg	12	29 May 2010	£899	£1149	

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Avoid airports and sail from a home port

SETTING off on a cruise can often mean flying hundreds, if not thousands of miles, to pick up the ship.

But it's more than possible to use a variety of British ports, some right here in Kent.

Last year, some 40 per cent of cruise bookings made by Brits used a UK port, and with more ships arriving next year, it appears the no-fly cruise market is growing in popularity.

Some, like William Gibbons, the director of the Passenger Shipping Association, believe taking to the seas will soon proportionally out-strip air travel. He said cruise companies are learning how to find their market in the UK by using more and more local docking facilities.

For example, P&O Cruises has almost 130 cruises leaving Southampton next year. Managing director Carol Marlow said: "Being able to avoid the hassle of airports, bring as much luggage as you like without worrying about hand luggage, liquids or excess baggage charges, and simply board the ship within 30

minutes – these are luxuries our passengers soon realise they can't do without."

British ports like Dover, Southampton and Portsmouth are easy to get to by road, and P&O has a fleet of coaches using numerous pick-up points. Others, like Titan HiTours, do door-to-door pick-ups.

Cunard Lines said many people like to design their breaks so that they spend the maximum amount of time at sea, especially when they are on board its iconic Queen Mary 2 ship, for the "sense of escapism".

Ballrooms

Of all the seasons, autumn is one of the best to sample a cruise, with fewer passengers and lower prices.

The Queen Mary 2 leaves Southampton for a six-day trip to New York. Luxury is the key word here – the ship has a variety of suites and ballrooms, with crossings costing from about £900.

The stargazing sessions run by the Royal Astronomical Society are also popular.

Leaving from Dover for 29 days is the luxu-

rious Seabourn Sojourn, calling at ports including Rouen, St Malo, Cartagena, and Lipari Island, and finally Rome. The cost starts at about £10,000 per person.

Also departing from Dover is Fred. Olsen, which runs Arts Club cruises exploring the ancient worlds, and calls in at Almeria, Villefranche, Civitavecchia, Piraeus and Lisbon.

The itinerary, with many speakers giving lectures, also includes full days in Alexandria, Limassol, Alanya, Sfax and La Goulette.

Prices are from about £1,500 up to about £3,000 for a suite with balcony.

Anyone wanting to end their cruise closer to home can opt for the Hebridean Princess which sails from Scotland to her winter home at Tilbury just over the river in Essex. It explores the best of the British coast and includes a reception on board HMS Warrior in Portsmouth, and even a trip to Leeds Castle. It costs from about £1,800 each.

Leaving Southampton are P&O's long week-ends in Europe, costing a few hundred pounds each, including stops over three days at

Zeebrugge, Bruges and Ghent. The company uses its Oceana or the child-free Arcadia, and an on-board gala dinner is part of the package.

For a longer trip, the world's largest cruise ship, Independence of the Seas, from Royal Caribbean, can take in 11 nights around the Canary Islands with full days in Funchal, Madeira, Lisbon and Vigo in Spain. It leaves from Southampton and costs from £900 per person.

There are 25 nights in the Caribbean for about £1,800 with Black Watch, leaving Southampton. The ship carries almost 900 passengers, and visits La Coruña and Madeira before setting off for Barbados, St Lucia, St Maarten, Tortola and Antigua. The return journey is broken with a day in the Azores, thanks to Titan HiTours.

Slightly shorter is the 15-nights trip in the same region with P&O, with a flight back from Barbados costing just over £1,500 per person in a stateroom with balcony. It also leaves from Southampton, on board the Ventura, and includes a day in Tenerife. The price includes the return flight





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Departs	Cruise	No. of days	Cruise itinerary	Inside from	Outside from
Jun 14	THE NORTH CAPE	16	Ålesund, Harstad, The North Cape, Alta, Leknes, Florø, Flåm, Bergen, Stavanger	£2,015	£2,975
Jun 29	A FRENCH VINTAGE	15	Amsterdam, Honfleur, St Malo, La Rochelle, Gironde River, Bordeaux, Belle Île, Brest, Isle of Scilly, Dartmouth, St Peter Port	£1,870	£2,895
Jul 13	TREASURES OF THE BALTIC	16	Kiel Canal, Ronne, Tallinn, St Petersburg (2 nights), Stockholm, Visby, Gotland, Copenhagen	£2,225	£2,995
Jul 28	SAGAS OF ICE & FIRE	16	Kirkwall, Lerwick, Close Cruise Heimacy, Reykjavik, Grundarfjordur, Isafjordhur, Akureyri, Torshavn, Leith	£1,725	£2,950
Aug 12	HIGHLANDS & ISLANDS	15	Sark, Glengarriff, Killybegs, Rothesay, Oban, Tobermory, Kirkwall, Invergordon, Leith	£1,695	£2,895

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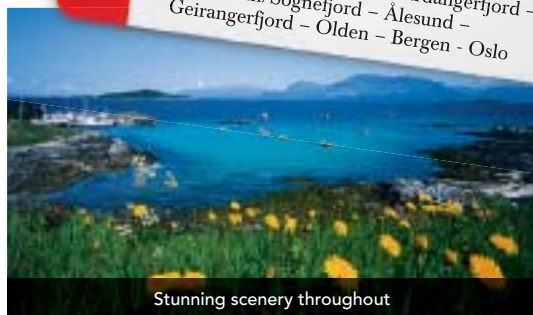
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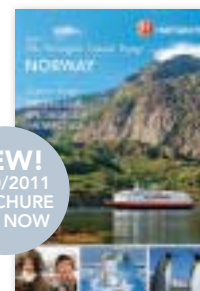


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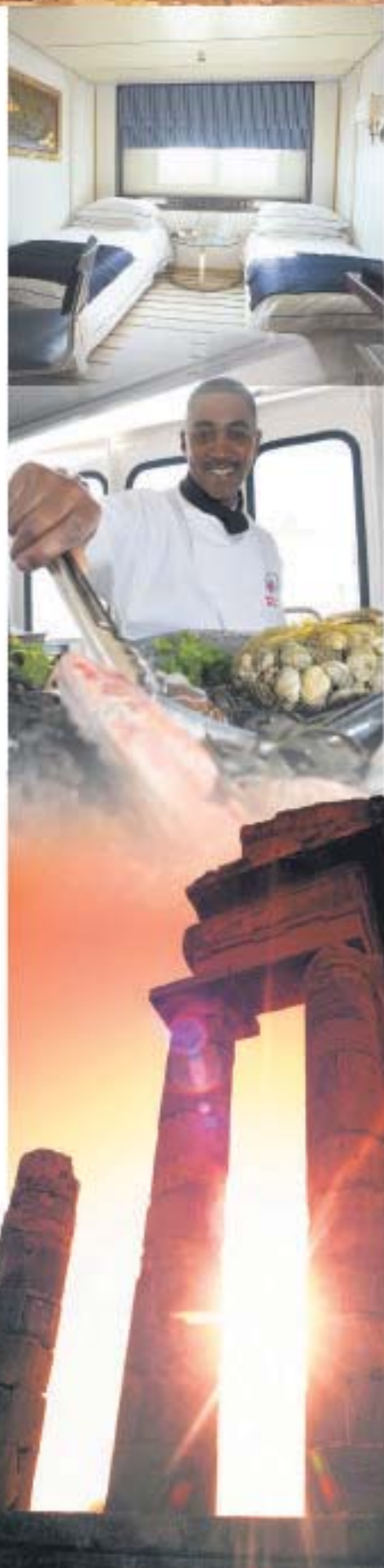
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Prize is for 2 people and includes

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To enter for this fantastic prize, simply answer the question below and send your entry on a postcard along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Cruise Competition, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is 27 November 2009



Question: How many nights is the Dynasties of the Mediterranean cruise aboard Spirit of Adventure?

You can also text your answer to 81800, by sending CRUISE, followed by a space, the answer, a space and your name and address. Messages cost 25p plus standard network charges.

The service is provided by g8wave London N7. or email competitions@kosmedia.co.uk

No purchase necessary

Terms and conditions

1. The prize draw is open to all UK residents over the age of 21 with a permanent UK address, except employees of Acromas Group Limited or Kosmedia Limited, their families or anyone connected with the prize draw. 2. Only one entry per person is permitted. 3. Prize is for two people sharing a grade 8-twin cabin on the Dynasties of the Mediterranean cruise departing on 24 March, 2010. 4. No purchase is necessary. 5. The winner will be randomly selected in an independently supervised draw on 30th November 2009. 6. Lost, delayed or illegible entries will not be accepted, and proof of posting is not proof of receipt. 7. Spirit of Adventure reserves the right to alter the rules and the prize, provided an alternative prize is of equivalent value. 8. The judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. 9. The winner will be notified by telephone or post within 21 days of the draw taking place. 10. By entering this competition all entrants agree to participate in post-event publicity, and for their photo, name and home county to be published. 11. The winner's name may be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to Spirit of Adventure KOS Draw, Marketing Department, Enbrook Park, Sandgate, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE. 12. Entry to the prize draw is deemed acceptance of the rules. 13. By entering the prize draw, you consent to Spirit of Adventure using it for administrative purposes and to the Spirit of Adventure and Acromas groups of companies and their partners using it to inform you of other products and services by letter, SMS telephone and/or e-mail. For a complete copy of Spirit of Adventure's privacy policy please refer to spiritofadventure.co.uk 14. Travel insurance and additional cancellation cover is not included in the prize. 15. Both passengers must hold current EU passports. 16. Holiday is subject to Spirit of Adventure's booking conditions. 17. Prize not transferable, no whole/part cash alternatives.

Channelling the anger

Mark Dickerson certain is not the only person to complain about KCC's profligate ways. Does anyone watch Kent TV?

I have yet to meet a viewer of this absurd and wasteful channel. Mr Dickerson can complain until he is blue in the face but council TV will continue, along with its sister extravagance, the multi-page *Around Kent*, full of glossy pictures of our handsome councillors. What a waste.

Janet Grainer, Sittingbourne.

Cruelty and kindness

The announcement by the RSPCA of the increase in animal cruelty by children means this intolerable behaviour can only be contained and eventually stopped by teaching them at the very earliest age to love, care for and respect all animals and other life.

It must be the most important subject in the school curriculum, with hands-on involvement with animals in zoos, parks and sanctuaries. This should be compulsory.

The happy and loving smiles of children when mixing with and handling animals is a joy to behold. We must teach our young the correct and loving way before they are corrupted. The blame for this cruelty must rest with those selfish and greedy individuals who profited from the permissive age.

They are continuing to profit from the media use of violent films, videos, books, magazines, television, plays, etc, bringing moral decay and lack of discipline down through the decades, particularly from the 1960s.

Teaching children kindness to animals will also bring the same between fellow humans in adulthood. Let those in power realise this simple logic.

We would gain so much and give relief to those involved in caring for animals. They give so much time and effort towards ending this terrible cruelty, but need help.

Maureen Ainsley, Whitstable

My hospital parking plan

It's good to hear the Health Secretary has announced parking charges at NHS hospitals are to be stopped (KoS, October 18).

These charges are really only a tax on the sick. Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Derek Wyatt, who has been campaigning for seven years, says he is pleased but it can't be done overnight, but it will be done over the next three years.

I think it can be done much sooner. If you look how much is taken each year in a hospital car park, then subtract the cost of administration, the buying and maintaining of ticket machines, the cost of hiring a security firm to empty them and wardens to patrol 24 hours a day, seven days a

week, there can't be a lot left for the hospital. What should be done?

Well, if the hospital needs money it could have voluntary contribution boxes at the exits and people could put in what they can afford.

The hospital would get every penny and only a small administration charge would be incurred. They could also advertise what they were collecting for (a scanner, etc). People would rather give to something like that than pay parking charges.

I would even go so far as to say that the hospitals would probably make more money this way, so everyone is happy.

Peter Nassan, Chatham

A good idea, Cllr Dean

Just as the police depend upon the public in combating crime, why shouldn't Liberal Democrat county councillor Trudy Dean use the public's help in identifying council waste?

In all enterprises – private or public – there is an element of waste. Budgets are granted for departments and council officers use the available funds. How can any one councillor really keep tabs on how this money is spent, right down to the last penny?

I think this is a positive move, particularly if people write to KoS and identify where waste exists. This would then be on record and a reply should be expected either as an explanation or remedy. For example, the

Highways Agency is granted a budget. Does any councillor know why this is spent down to the last penny? Has anyone asked why we need white lines down each side of country lanes? Why are there 94 signs on the Ash bypass? Why are 50mph signs sprouting like mushrooms on the A258 Deal to Sandwich road? The main reason for waste is quite simple. Departments are given a yearly budget based on the previous year. Officers use this according to policy and at the end of the budget period, if it appears there could be a surplus, officers will spend it, otherwise their budget will be reduced next year by that amount. Cllr Dean's thoughts are in the right direction. Why has no other councillor put forward such a good idea?

Trevor Vince, Finglesham, Deal

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Slow on the uptake

Terry Hudson just doesn't appear to understand how straightforward it is to avoid being fined for illegal driving practices (Driving the point home, Letters KoS, October 10).

Keeping to the speed limit, wearing a seat-belt and not speaking on a hand-held mobile phone while driving are not beyond the capabilities of most motorists.

If these basic rules are adhered to then those pesky little speed cameras (so reviled by the haters of state control) will become nothing but lumps of redundant metal.

Rebellious drivers who object to and regularly flout sensible regulations that are proven to reduce accidents and fatalities can have little to complain about when they are penalised for their petulant acts of anti-authoritarian disobedience.

Clive Wilkins-Oppler, Canterbury

Something to hide?

Having read with interest your story on the Turner Contemporary £6 million refund, I have to say there's only one reason for a "legally enforceable confidentiality clause" – and that is there is something to hide.

If the £6m actually covered the original cost to the taxpayer and the legal fees entailed in recovering that money, there would be no need to hide behind a confidentiality clause.

Too often councils are hiding information on where the taxpayers' money is being spent, it is hidden away until forced into the open with the Freedom of Information Act.

By my reckoning the taxpayer is approximately £2.6m out of pocket, but of course as KCC lost £50m in the Icelandic bank collapse, this is only small amount in comparison.

Cllr Steve Ward, Ramsgate

Letters continued on page 58

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BIRTHS

ALDHOUS

Joshua Dean William Aldhous was born at 6.30 pm on the 23rd October 2009 and weighed 8lb 5oz. His parents Dean and Leanne are delighted to welcome him into the family. A baby brother for Connor, Jamie and Keira.

DAVIS

Thomas John Stuart born on 24th October 2009 at the William Harvey Hospital, weighing 6lbs 2oz. Son to Paul and Shelley Davis, brother to Anthony.

KINDERMAN

Richard and Jane are delighted to announce the birth of their son Benjamin Robert Lawrence Kinderman who was born at 5.32 am on the 10th October 2009 at Darent Valley

Hospital. A brother for David, Natalie and Jennie. Also a first Grandchild for Robert and Margaret Cooper.

MCCRINDLE

James Michael Connor McCrindle born on 25th September 2009 weighing 7lbs 3ozs. Son to Jonathan and Annemarie and brother to Michaela in Kings Hill, West Malling.

NAGY-PERRY

Gabor and Fiona are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter Ava Angelica Nagy-Perry who was born at 12.06 pm on the 7th October 2009 and weighed 8lb exactly. Thanks to Mr Waterstone at Darent Valley Hospital. A wonderful gift for family in England and Hungary.

PEMBLE FORD

Lewis George born on 21st October

2009 at the William Harvey Hospital, weighing 7lbs 13oz. Son to Jason and Natasha and brother to Amelia.

RAMSEY

Sim and Suzy Ramsey are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter Olivia Daisy on 15/10/2009 weighing 7lb 15oz. A beautiful sister for Ruby.

SMITH

Dennis William Smith died suddenly on 15th October 2009. Loved by friends and family, now at peace with Doreen.

SWAN

Martin and Fiona Swan celebrate the birth of their daughter Isabella Christina on 26th October 2009.

DEATHS

KINSEY

David John Kinsey died suddenly at home on 19th October 2009. Much loved husband to Christina and father to Peter. We will remember you always.

ROSE

Alan Rose died 24th October 2009. Father of Linda and Margaret, Grandfather of Stuart, Peter and Paul, Great-Grandfather of Brandon. Cremation at Garden of England on November 5th.

WOOD

In loving memory of May Wood died suddenly at home on 15th October. Loving mother of David and dear sister to Bob, Betty, Charlie and John and Kitty. Funeral on 3rd November at Tunbridge Wells crematorium at 11.30. Arrangements by T.W. Boorman Tonbridge

transport in order to cut pollution and relieve the strain on our overburdened roads.

We have the most expensive and, quite possibly, the worst rail service in Europe, with services cut while fares go up. The railways need to be brought back into public ownership so it becomes a service again, instead of a business putting profits before everything else. Privatisation is not in the public interest and I encourage people to keep this in mind at the next election, as privatisation of the postal service is exactly what the Tories have in mind.

Steve Campkin,

Ashford Green Party, Kennington

The Hunting Act at bay

This weekend marks the start of the hunting season and what could possibly be the last opening while the Hunting Act is in force.

The reality is the Act is a bad law that has failed. There have been just three successful prosecutions against hunts in the five years the Act has been in force, despite the thousands of hours of monitoring by the League Against Cruel Sports and associate organisations.

Opinion polls by independent organisations have consistently shown that less than three in 10 think the Hunting Act is working.

The ban on hunting was driven by class politics and prejudice, not animal welfare or wildlife management, which is why the law is unworkable.

Repeal would be a public benefit. The Hunting Act has wasted thousands of hours of police time. Officers have been forced to spend hours investigating spurious allegations made by animal rights activists when they should have been tackling real crime.

The courts have spent weeks wrestling with the law. One judge said that the Hunting Act "is far from simple to interpret or apply".

Millions have been spent bringing in, enforcing and discussing the law. I am sure the general, non-hunting public will agree the money wasted on enforcing a dreadful piece of legislation would be better off spent targeting issues such as education, schooling, policing and the NHS. This could be the last season under the ban. David Cameron has consistently repeated the commitment to a free vote on a bill in government time to repeal the Hunting Act.

This was a manifesto commitment in 2005 and the Conservatives have confirmed it will be in the next manifesto. Increasing numbers of Labour and Lib Dem MPs accept the Hunting Act has failed. Whatever your views on hunting, it is vital that badly drafted laws do not remain on the statute book.

Tim Bonner, Countryside Alliance

A devastating tragedy

I was deeply saddened to read your story about two-week-old baby Harvey Davies, who tragically died from meningitis. I lost my son, Spencer, to meningitis and meningococcal septicaemia and can well imagine the pain all those who knew him are suffering.

On behalf of national charity Meningitis UK, which represents thousands of families who have experienced the devastation caused by meningitis, I would like to pass on our heartfelt sympathies to Harvey's family.

Sadly, the disease can kill in less than four hours and can be incredibly difficult to detect as the symptoms are hard to distinguish from flu or a hangover, plus there are occasions when people show no or very few symptoms.

For all these reasons, we believe prevention is the only way to truly eradicate the disease and developing a vaccine to protect against all forms of meningitis and its associated diseases is our sole focus at Meningitis UK.

Our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign aims to raise £7 million to fund lifesaving research into eradicating Meningitis B, the most common form of meningitis in the UK for which there is currently no vaccine.

We receive no government funding and are reliant on the public to help us in our fight against the disease.

Great advances have been made in the last 20 years including vaccines against Hib, meningitis C and pneumococcal meningitis and our scientists believe a vaccine can be found within the next few years.

In the absence of a vaccine to protect against all strains, we also distribute a wide range of material to raise awareness of the common symptoms and the need to act quickly, which can mean the difference between life and death.

If any readers would like a symptoms information pack, including wallet-sized symptoms cards, or to find out more about supporting our Search 4 a Vaccine Campaign, they can call Meningitis UK on 0117 373 7373, or visit www.meningitisUK.org.

Steve Dayman, chief executive, Meningitis UK

Give everyone a break

Monday, October 26, marked the halfway point between the August and Christmas bank holidays.

We would like this four-month gap to be broken with a new Community Day bank holiday in late October. Over the last two years the recession has hit communities across the UK. When times are tough people look to friends, families and their community for support.

Community spirit is a longstanding and unsung British tradition. Millions across the UK volunteer and take part in community activities every week.

Surveys show volunteering contributes significantly to the economy, boosts wellbeing, prevents isolation and makes people happy.

We believe these efforts should be recognised, encouraged and celebrated.

2012 marks the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the London Olympics and Paralympics – events only possible thanks to volunteers. This would be the perfect year to introduce a new Community Day bank holiday.

Brendan Barber, TUC general secretary;

Dame Elisabeth Hoodless, executive director,

Community Service Volunteers;

Kevin Curley, chief executive, National

Association for Voluntary and Community

Action; Justin Davis Smith

chief executive, Volunteering England; and

Stuart Etherington, chief executive, National

Council for Voluntary Organisations

We're losing the fight

The Irish people have failed to save the UK from subjection in the emergent European super state.

We must now rely on the Czech Republic or Poland to reject the Lisbon Treaty, which Gordon Brown endorsed without reference to the electorate.

Over the last 36 or 37 years, successive governments have ceded rights we entrusted to them to unelected bureaucrats in Brussels; our own establishment seems determined to destroy us. It's crunch time now and the Eurofanatics are playing their aces, while the only one we have remains up the sleeve – and will remain there while we are so apathetic.

Wake up, Britain. It's time to put country before party or we will find this once proud, respected, successful nation absorbed into one vast, dictatorial, undemocratic alliance.

RM Higgins, Tunbridge Wells

Ahoy there, shipmates

Did you ever serve on board any of the light fleet carriers HMS Bulwark, HMS Albion or HMS Centaur?

Our association – the HMS Bulwark Albion Centaur Association – is open to anyone who served at any time on these ships. There is a magazine three times a year, plus events including annual general meetings, social events and sea-days with our new ships HMS Albion and Bulwark and anniversary commemorations at home and abroad.

While our home port is Portsmouth, this year's AGM was at Sand Bay, Weston-super-Mare. We also sponsor sea cadets from our affiliated corps on the TS Royalist.

Membership is £8 per annum.

Inquiries to Leigh Easton, Glenmoray, Hayford Place, Cambusbarron, Stirling FK7 9JX; or email at ngsfo@tiscali.co.uk; or visit our website – www.bulwarkassoc.plus.com – for further details.

Leigh Easton,

Membership Secretary, HMSBACA

Letters continued from page 57

He's not green enough

David Cameron's speech at the Conservative Party conference was a disappointment for green groups.

Since Becoming leader, Mr Cameron improved his party's electoral prospects by claiming a commitment to tackle climate change by going green by voting blue. But in his speech at Manchester the environment barely featured in his vision for Britain.

The Conservatives do not yet have the policies to rise to the challenge of climate change and this close to a general election they should have.

Protecting our environment and building a green economy should be a priority for the Conservatives. Insulating homes and devel-

oping clean, secure energy supplies will help create new green jobs and industries and should have been at the heart of Mr Cameron's vision for our recession-hit economy. New low-carbon industries and investors urgently need confidence that a Conservative government would prioritise the development of a green economy but this speech will not have given it to them.

Stuart Cox, Co-ordinator, East Kent FoE, Deal

Support our posties

I've worked for failing companies that expect great sacrifices from workers while carrying on in the same profligate and stupid way.

Government always automatically assumes managements are perfect and without blemish, which patently they aren't.

So how are workers supposed to react to a bunch of useless, overpaid managers making unrealistic demands?

The management expects posties to walk at an average of four mph. I'd like to see them do it all day, even without a heavy bag and having to stop every two minutes.

Our postwoman goes down this road like a rocket, I don't know how she keeps it up.

Why doesn't this gutless Government do something about useless management instead of always blaming the workers, whose side they're supposed to be on anyway?

Phil Granger, West Malling

Rundown railways

The reduction of rail services between Ashford and Brighton – or anywhere else for that matter – is frankly ridiculous.

It can only have a detrimental effect on domestic tourism in both Ashford and Brighton, and it will also encourage more people to drive. This comes at a time when people should be encouraged to use public

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Since 2001, Kent Community Foundation has distributed over £10 million in over 4,500 grants to voluntary groups, charities, organisations and individuals benefiting literally thousands of individuals across Kent. This has been made possible by the generosity and support of a growing number of private and corporate Fund-Holders and Foundation Members who have recognised the benefits of giving through Kent Community Foundation.

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Innovative apprenticeship scheme offers big benefits

£7m cash injection will aid school leavers and employees

YOUNG people and small businesses throughout Kent are set to benefit from an innovative new apprenticeship scheme.

The South East Apprenticeship Company (SEAC) will use a share of £7 million Government funding to provide more than 950 work placements for school leavers throughout Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

It will also act as a recruitment agency of sorts for the youngsters, as those who lose a spot at a business for whatever reason will be kept on the books and helped to find another.

Minister for the South East Jonathan Shaw – who is also the MP for Chatham and Aylesford – welcomed the initiative.

He said: “Through its Backing Young Britain campaign, the Government is determined to mitigate the worst effects of the recession and to ensure there isn’t another lost generation.

“This scheme will give the smaller firms in Kent, Surrey and Sussex greater flexibility to take on apprentices, and it will equip this generation of young people with the skills employers need for their future success.

“Together these will help us on the road to recovery.”

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

SEAC has been set up by the Kent Association of Training Organisations in partnership with Keeping Excellence In Training Standards, and will work with key training providers to offer the additional apprenticeships.

The placements will be offered in industries vital for the country’s economic growth including environmental, creative, engineering, manufacturing, logistics and business administration.

Apprenticeships minister Kevin Brennan said: “We want to give small and medium-sized firms the extra support and resources they need to take on more apprentices.

“These innovative models mean small businesses which may not previously have felt able to offer apprenticeships can now get on board and back young Britain.

“Apprenticeships are a key route to building the nation’s skills, and as we rebuild growth it’s really important we continue to invest in people and their skills – especially in industries key to our future economic success.”



BUILDING BLOCK: The scheme gives smaller firms greater flexibility in taking on apprentices

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SafetyCO UK

Pupil's vision to be seen on national telly

A DESIGN student will have his work displayed on television screens across the country after winning a national competition.

Romaine Reid's advertisement for a new Panasonic television was one of two finalists chosen by a panel of creative experts, and was voted by the public as the best.

In addition to the advert being picked up by the electronics giant, Romaine – who attends Ravensbourne College in Chislehurst – won £2,500 of prizes and a two-week work experience placement.

Head of brand communications John Dixon said: “Romaine's entry creatively captured the unique benefits of the new generation of Panasonic HD televisions in the most innovative way.”

Employment venture takes off at airport

BROMLEY schoolchildren will be given a helping hand into employment thanks to a new partnership with Biggin Hill Airport.

Earlier this month the Bromley Education Business Partnership (BEBP) agreed to provide, through work placements and apprenticeships, a supply of young employees for the 60 companies based at the airport.

To mark the launch of the tour, teachers from across the borough were invited to attend a tour of the site.

Guy Thompson, from Langley Park Boys, said: “It's great to see so many local opportunities for young people. Until you come here you have no idea there are 800 people working at the airport.”



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- Advertisers are requested to check their advertisements after the first insertion. The media owner will not be responsible for any errors on subsequent insertions, which have not been advised to them in writing.
- A minimum of one month's notice must be given in writing for any cancellation of the signed annual advertiser's agreement. Upon cancellation, all discounts from KOS Media's standard effective media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009) will be recalculated and adjusted accordingly in line with KOS Media's standard media rate card (effective July 2008-June 2009) and will reflect the revised length of commitment denoted by the advertiser's written cancellation. Any surcharges, refunds or costs in relation to the production of the advertiser's TV commercial for the commitment set out within the advertiser's agreement will be met in full by the advertiser as per KOS Media's standard media advertising rate card (July 2008-June 2009). Discount will be reapplied and any refunds or surcharges will be paid by either party within 30 days of the advertiser's written cancellation. Any other advertising placed must give a minimum of seven days' written notice and any discounts given for series bookings will be forfeited by the advertiser upon cancellation.
- Seasonal contracts, Your Professional classified advertisements or any uplift advertising within the annual contract with the advertiser will be invoiced in full - at rate card - on receipt of any written cancellation of this contract within the 12-months.
- All uplift advertisements must be booked in at least three months in advance of publication and will be subject to availability. All dates booked will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The advertiser must agree to the date and time of filming of any online TV advertising commercial supplied by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd within the advertiser's agreement. (Platinum, Gold, Silver standard of commercial). For any reason, the advertiser not be available at the agreed time without giving sufficient notice (at least 48 hours), KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd reserves the right to charge for any further TV production at its standard published hourly rate should the advertiser still wish to use KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's production services to complete its TV commercial or photographic imagery included in the advertiser's agreement. The advertiser will approve and accept that there are only two choices of voice-over and music offered by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Should an advertiser wish to use other voice-overs or non-copyright free music it is the responsibility of the advertiser to pay the PRS rights should they be required to do so. Any changes to or failure to approve the TV production by the deadlines agreed between both parties will result in KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd being given permission by the advertiser to replace the TV commercial with pictures or stills from a choice of photography supplied by the media owner until the advertiser can supply a TV commercial produced at their own cost and risk outside of this agreement. The advertiser also accepts and agrees that this action would not reduce the value or cost of their membership. Any cost of changes required to the TV commercial throughout the advertiser's agreement will be borne by the advertiser outside of this agreement.
- Each advertiser accepts that their ranking and position within KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd's search engine will be equal to those within their category (Platinum, Gold, Silver, Bronze, etc) other than that they will be ranked based on the search engine criteria of optimisation within their level (Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze).
- Any delivery claims made by the advertiser or discount vouchers published within the print or online media of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd and any action as a result of the public or otherwise is the sole responsibility of the advertiser. Any claims resulting from this via KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be met by the advertiser.
- a. All credit accounts due for payment shall be notified to the Advertiser by the 30th day following the date of the invoice, time to be in the essence. All sums due to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring shall be paid in full, and the Advertiser shall have no right of set off in any circumstances.
b. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd or RBS Factoring by the due date, the media owner shall be entitled to suspend all further advertising until payment is received and/or repudiate the contract and make any surcharges for breaking the contract.
c. In the event that payment is not received by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd by the due date, the media owner reserves the right to charge interest on all overdue balances calculated on a daily basis at the rate of two per cent above the minimum lending rate of National Westminster Bank Plc from time to time in force.
d. Notwithstanding anything in these terms and conditions or implied to the contrary, in the event of the Advertiser ceasing to use the services of KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd (for whatever reason), the whole amount of monies due from the Advertiser to the date of cessation shall fall due for immediate payment.
e. The Advertiser will be liable for all costs incurred by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in the recovery of debts not paid by the due date.
f. Payment may be made by cheque, credit transfer, direct debit, cash and any major credit card.
- Any discount which KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd may have agreed with the Advertiser shall be forfeited in the event of failure by the Advertiser to complete the contract or to meet the above credit terms.
- Advertising Agency commission will be allowed to those advertisers recognised by the Newspaper Society, but shall not exceed ten per cent and will be subject to the terms of that recognition. This commission will not be allowed if the Advertising Agency fails to meet the terms of that recognition.
- All private advertisements and certain categories as laid down by KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd must be prepaid.
- The Advertiser agrees to indemnify KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the media owners or any of the companies within the KOS Media Group as the result of legal action or threatened legal action or threatened legal arising from the publication of any advertisement or advertising promotion.
- An order for an advertisement shall amount to acceptance of these terms and conditions, and any condition placed on an order by an Advertiser shall be null and void in so far as it conflicts with them.
- Copyright in advertisements produced wholly or partially by the media owners belong to KOS Media (Publishing) Ltd. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the media owner's written consent.

All terms and conditions stated above are in place to protect the advertiser, the media owner and the communities they serve within the public domain as well as the beneficial rights of individuals and organisations. KOS Media will endeavour to always act reasonably in applying its terms and conditions.

Effective from June 2008

Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR
Tel 01303 817040 Fax 01303 817004
Email: info@kosmedia.co.uk



Award winning publications

www.kentnews.co.uk

Telesales Executive



We have an exciting opportunity for you to join our Multi Media business which includes the award winning Kent on Saturday and Kent on Sunday newspapers.

If you are highly driven, confident, a self motivated team player with good communication skills, who is able to work under pressure to deadlines and targets, in our fast paced and fun telesales department, then apply.

You will be office based and working with an existing client base of advertisers where customer service is paramount, but you must also be able to search out new business to develop and grow your territory revenues and opportunities. Due to location, you need to have your own transport and a proven track record in sales is preferable.

We offer:

- Good basic salary
- Performance and revenue related bonuses
- Five weeks holiday a year

Apply in writing to:

Tracy Morgan, Telesales Manager,
KOS Media Ltd, Apple Barn, Hythe Road,
Smeth, Ashford, Kent or email
tracy.morgan@kosmedia.co.uk



Award Winning Company

KOS Media | Apple Barn | Hythe Road | Smeth | Ashford | Kent | TN25 6SR
www.kentnews.co.uk | www.jobsforkent.co.uk | www.yourkenttv.co.uk

KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. KCA PTP provides a strong departmental framework with regular supervision, line management, monthly team meetings, effective administration and opportunities for further training and career development.

BOTH ROLES ELIGIBLE FOR ESSENTIAL CAR USER ALLOWANCE OF UP TO £1,170 PER ANNUM

Senior Psychological Wellbeing Practitioners x 2

£24,831 - £33,436 (AGENDA FOR CHANGE BAND 6) • 37.5 HOURS PER WEEK

BASED MEDWAY

We require two experienced Psychological Wellbeing Advisors to work with adult clients in our well established service providing low intensity CBT based interventions. Based in our Medway team, you will also be required to line manage a number of qualified and trainee Psychological Wellbeing Advisors.

We would welcome applications from professionals who can demonstrate generic competencies in psychological therapy and basic cognitive and behavioural therapy. This may include Graduate Mental Health Workers, Registered Mental Health Nurses and Occupational Therapists in addition to those who have undertaken the IAPT training and have post qualification experience. Ref: 615.

For an informal discussion, please contact Kerry Smith, Service Manager, KCA Psychological Therapy Providers on 01634 673304 (Monday – Thursday).

Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner

£20,710 - £26,839 (AGENDA FOR CHANGE BAND 5) • 37.5 HOURS PER WEEK

BASED SWALE

We require an experienced mental health advisor to work within our established IAPT low intensity teams in Swale. You will offer low intensity, CBT based interventions to adults experiencing mild to moderate mental health issues.

You will be expected to have a clear understanding of CBT approaches and techniques, low intensity/high volume working, telephone work with clients and a knowledge of current NICE and IAPT guidance. Ref: 616.

For an informal discussion, please contact Susan Wyles, Service Manager, KCA Psychological Therapy Providers on 01795 590212.

Application forms and job descriptions can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk or call 01795 590635. Please quote the relevant reference number in your application.

Closing date for both roles: Friday 13 November 2009.

Interview date for Senior Psychological Wellbeing Practitioners: Monday 30 November 2009.

Interview date for Psychological Wellbeing Practitioner: Wednesday 2 December 2009.

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all.

Charity no: 292824.

www.kca.org.uk





Public Sector

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KOSMEDIA

Telephone: 01303 817040

Fax: 01303 817004

Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.ukOnline: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

Abbey Court School "WE GROW PEOPLE"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff, efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a
TEMPORARY TEACHER
for pupils with severe
and profound learning
difficulties

Starting 4th January until 1st April 2010
(fixed term contract)
MPS + 2 SEN Points

The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided.

Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 13th November 2009

For further details and a job description,
please contact Linda Taylor, Business Manager,
Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road,
Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP
(Tel: 01634 338236)



The Foreland School

Head/Secretary: 01843 863891

Head Teacher - Pam Ashworth

SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER

required from 4th January 2010 or as soon as possible after that date.
Grade KS9 (£26,421 to £30,219 pro rata) 37 hours per week Term Time + 4 weeks (42 weeks per annum)

The Foreland School is seeking a School Business Manager to be responsible for the Financial and Personnel Management of the school as well as oversee the smooth running of the School Office with a team of office personnel. The School Business Manager will be a member of the School Leadership Team.

Plans are underway under BSF initiative, focussing on a rebuild of The Foreland School (Broadstairs) with a rebuild of Hartsdown Technology College on the current Hartsdown site in Margate.

The Foreland School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils and will carry out an Enhanced CRB on successful applicants.

For an application pack please email janetpayne@foreland.kent.sch.uk or ring the school office from Tuesday 3rd November 2009.

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 11th November 2009
Interview date to be Friday 20th November.

Urgently Required

Experienced HCA's for
evening work (7pm – 9pm) in Dover.

Supporting a client with complex needs in their own home, long term placement. Recent clinical experience essential, NVQ2 desirable. Pay rate £7.40 – £12.00 per hour.

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new jobs that match your selected criteria

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education recruitment agencies

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Required now for supply and long term
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EXCELLENT DAILY RATE

Call for an immediate interview

01474 359333

Or E-mail: office@classiceducation.co.uk

www.classiceducation.co.uk

A Kent based company you can rely on



Marlowe Academy

Stirling Way, Ramsgate, Kent CT12 6NB
Tele: 01843 593326

www.marloweacademy.co.uk

Learning Mentor required

To provide support for students and successful applicants will need to:

- Have a calm and supportive manner
- Relate well to young people
- Be a good team member
- Have a good standard of education
- Level 2/GCSE maths

Previous experience useful but not essential.

Hours : 40 per week (8.30 to 5.00pm)
Monday to Friday term time only

Pay range:: New Academy Scheme Salaries
Scale 3 £14,169 – £16,064 pa fte

Please send a copy of your C.V. to the school or email
jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Enquiries or visits to the Academy are welcome.
Please contact Jennifer Spooner on direct telephone
number 01843 598550 or email to address above

We look forward to hearing from you.
The closing date for post: Friday 6th November 2009

Successful applicants will be subject to an Enhanced Criminal Disclosure



Marlowe Academy

Stirling Way, Ramsgate, CT12 6NB
Tele : 01843 593326

Applications are invited for the post of
Instrumental Tutor (Music)
required to support the Music Department in the delivery of tuition in
the following areas:

**Drums
Piano**

Applications are welcome from graduates of music or music education, and from candidates who hold other professional qualifications in music. Successful candidates will teach individual lessons or in small groups of 2/3 pupils. Lessons are 30 minute periods and successful candidates will be expected to address the individual needs of pupils.

Instructors will be expected to teach from beginner level and should develop and lead small ensembles for public performances.

Instructors will be employed on a peripatetic basis, meeting demand as required.

CVs and letters of application by post to the address above

FAO: Jennifer Spooner HR Manager or via
jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk. **You should state the post you are applying for**, your principal instrument and your suitability for such a post.
Appointments are subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Closing date for applications: 6th November 2009



TEACHERS AND COVER SUPERVISORS URGENTLY REQUIRED

MAIDSTONE, ASHFORD,
MEDWAY TOWNS, THANET
& DARTFORD AREAS

Call and speak with friendly, qualified education staff



Tel No: **01892 676076**

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Teachers Needed Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading
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www.education-sense.com



MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone
is seeking to appoint an outstanding individual in the following area:

Finance Assistant Ref: P0606

Salary - £15,607 - £18,433

We are looking to recruit an exceptional individual to assist the smooth running of the Finance department. The successful candidate will have experience working in Accounts Payable and will be able to demonstrate excellent IT skills, including a sound understanding of Microsoft Excel. Knowledge of accounting packages, Purchase Ledger and Nominal Ledgers would be advantageous.

Closing date: Wednesday 18 November 2009

MidKent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau check in accordance with the College procedure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the HR department on 01634 383102 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

MidKent College is an equal opportunities employer



SHAPE, CONSTRUCT, CRAFT, CALCULATE, BEAUTIFY, FIX, PROGRAMME, DESIGN, CREATE, COMPOSE, ENGINEER, REBOOT, STYLE AND BUILD THE FUTURE.

SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND EARN EXTRA AS A SUPPLY LECTURER.

Whatever your skill, trade or talent, you could join South Kent College as a Supply Lecturer. From campuses in Ashford, Dover and Folkestone, we provide learning and training opportunities to over 10,000 local people every year. Helping us are skilled individuals like you, who lecture part-time on everything from hairdressing to catering, plumbing to child care. So, perhaps you're self-employed with some extra time to spare. Maybe you're retired, and you'd like to give something back. Whatever your background, we'd be interested to talk to you at one of our Recruitment Open Evenings. For details visit www.skcrecruitment.co.uk

SKC South Kent College
ASHFORD > DOVER > FOLKESTONE

**OPEN
EVENINGS**
5pm - 8pm in
FOLKESTONE on
November 10th
and **ASHFORD** on
November 17th



JobsforKent.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator and PA to Doctor

Canterbury

Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 16/11/09
 Full-time/ Part-time/Jobshare
 Are you looking for a change in direction or looking to take a new route with your skills? An opportunity has arisen within a rapidly expanding, exceptional health centre. The position is extremely sought after and is available immediately. Administrator and PA to Doctor of a rapidly expanding health care practice. We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics) Basic computer skills are preferable: Proficient user of Sage 50 and Microsoft Office, particularly Word, Excel and Publisher • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Work well solo • Works well within a team • Thrives on self improvement and success.
To apply/more information: Practice Manager Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: ISC1
 Tel: 01227 789977
 Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

Administrative /Reception Positions

Medway
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 4th November 2009
 DMC healthcare is one of the leading providers of high quality Primary Care services across 12 sites and for over 40,000 patients. We have a dedicated team of GPs, Nurses, Admin Staff and external consultants helping us deliver excellent care. We operate 8am till 6pm 365 days a year at a number of practices in the Kent area. We are offering full and part-time positions. We are looking for dedicated and hard working candidates to fill this position. Ideal candidates should have the following: * Minimum of 1 year previous administrative experience and working * knowledge of good office practice/ reception work * Computer literate, good telephone manner and team player with a desire to deliver excellence in customer care * Full UK driving license * Previous NHS experience an advantages.
To apply/more information: Gene Fitzpatrick DMC Healthcare
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
 Tel: 0207 635 1030
 Email recruitment@dmchealthcare.co.uk

Receptionist / Customer Service

Canterbury

Salary: negotiable
Closing Date: 24/11/09
 FULL-TIME OR JOBSHARE can you Provide excellent service "Walt Disney style"? Are you • Hard working and motivated • Enthusiastic and committed • Organised and efficient • Work well solo • Work well within a team • Thrive on self improvement and success? Then we have the job for you!! We require minimum qualifications of 5 GCSE's Grade C and above (must include English and Mathematics). Basic computer skills are preferable. No experience necessary as full training will be given. Apply for this position if you consider yourself to be confident and outgoing. If you think you have what we are looking for, please apply in writing with your CV to: Practice Manager, The Wellness Practice Ltd, Blean, Nr Canterbury, Kent CT2 9EB.

To apply/more information: Practice Manager Wellness Practice
Quoting Job Ref: cust 001
 Tel: 01227 789977
 Email admin@idealspinecentre.co.uk

ACCOUNTS- ADMIN. ASSISTANT

Ashford

Salary: TBA
 Full-time bi-lingual (English / French) ACCOUNTS- ADMIN. ASSISTANT We are a small well established and successful Wine Agency representing mainly French Wine Producers selling to the Japanese market Due to imminent retirement of current post holder, we are looking to recruit an adaptable and conscientious person to take charge of all our accounts office procedures, as well helping out with other office functions as necessary Computer literacy and attention to detail essential Salary according to ability and experience Please e-mail C.V. to: contact@bmwines.co.uk or call 01233-650954 for more information.
To apply/more information: B M Wines Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01233-650954
 Email contact@bmwines.co.uk

Catering, Hospitality

Live in Bar person/s

Dover

Salary: salary negotiable
 Require: Live in Bar person/s, Part-time, salary negotiable.
To apply/more information: Paul Molloy Bricklayers Arms
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01304 830 323
 Email paulmolloy2009@hotmail.co.uk

Construction, Architecture, Surveyors

OPERATIONS OFFICER

Folkestone

Salary: £25,620 - £30,210
Closing Date: Friday 6 November 2009
 OPERATIONS OFFICER PROPERTY SERVICES £25,620 - £30,210 + Car Allowance. An exciting opportunity has arisen for a surveyor with a broad knowledge of surveying and property management. For more details and an application pack, download at www.shepway.gov.uk or email jobs@shepway.gov.uk, alternatively call our 24 hour answer phone service on 01303 853481. Closing date for completed applications is Friday 6 November 2009.
To apply/more information: Shepway District Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01303 853481
 Email jobs@shepway.gov.uk

Bricklayers and Hoddies

Dover

Salary: TBA
 Bricklayers & Hoddies required for site in Dover for 19th October. Must have current CSCS card, also CRB checks will be required. Please call Kim - 07538 435741.
To apply/more information: Kim
 JKS Brickwork Contractors Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 07538 435741
 Email kim@jksgroup.co.uk

Domestic

Weekend Domestic

Faversham

Salary: TBA
 Residential Home in Faversham Require Weekend Domestic 9-

2pm Tel: between 9 & 4 for further details 01795 532629.
To apply/more information: Carnalea Residential Home
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01795 532629
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Cleaners

Canterbury

Salary: TBA
 "Littlebourne House Care Home" Require Full time and part time carers Day and night And Cleaners Full time and part time For more information Please call - Maralyn on Tel: 01227 721527.
To apply/more information: Littlebourne House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01227 721527
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Finding staff

24-7

JobsforKent.co.uk

To advertise in this section or online

01303 817040

Education, Teacher, School

Part-time Teacher of ICT

Rochester

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Wednesday, 4th November 2009
 Part-time Teacher of ICT This post would suit a qualified teacher or someone with aspirations to become a teacher. The school is well resourced and its ICT specialism enables every student to leave with an ICT qualification. If you would like an opportunity to work in a lively and forward-looking department please contact the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Jacqueline Harrison, 01634 844008 or visit our website www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk where further details and an application form can be downloaded. This is an excellent opportunity to join a successful, over-subscribed selective school. Behaviour was found to be "exemplary" by Ofsted. The School has recently achieved a Medway Council Gold Award in recognition of excellence in continuing professional development. We are committed to the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check. Closing date for applications - Wednesday, 4th November 2009.
To apply/more information: Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01634 844008
 Email harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

Lecturer - Public Services

Folkestone

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 2nd November 2009.
 With campuses in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover, South Kent College offers a wide range of courses from Entry Level to Level 7 and caters for over 10,000 students of all ages. We currently have the following opportunity at our Folkestone campus: Lecturer - Public Services Ref:T1405 29.6 hours per week You will act as course leader, teaching a range of

Public Service courses to a variety of students of all abilities and ages. You will have a Level 3 qualification in an appropriate subject, a teaching qualification, or the willingness to achieve this upon appointment, and experience of working in a teaching or training environment. You will have recent and relevant experience of working in a uniformed service, or comparable teaching experience of the subject. Above all, you will have a commitment to student success. For further information or an application pack please contact the Human Resources Department on 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk The closing date for receipt of applications is 5pm Monday 2nd November 2009. All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment. Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.
To apply/more information: South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1405
 Tel: 0845 207 8222
 Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Learning Mentor required

Ramsgate

Salary: Scale 3 £14,169—£16,064 pa fte
Closing Date: 6th November 2009
 To provide support for students and successful applicants will need to: * Have a calm and supportive manner * Relate well to young people * Be a good team member * Have a good standard of education * Level 2/GCSE maths Previous experience useful but not essential. Hours: 40 per week [8.30 to 5.00pm] Monday to Friday term time only
To apply/more information: Jennifer Spooner
 Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
 Tel: 01843 598 550
 Email jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

Thinking of Returning to Teaching?

Kent

Salary: tba
Closing Date: 26th November 2009
 If you are a qualified teacher and thinking of resuming your career after a break, Kent County Council is running Return to Teaching courses early 2010 at Canterbury High School, designed to enable you to make a successful return to the classroom. You are invited to attend our Open Morning on 12th November 2009 at 10:00 at the Ashford Holiday Inn, Central. Canterbury Road Ashford, TN25 8QQ
To apply/more information: Rajmund Brent
 Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01622 203800
 Email rajmund.brent@kent.gov.uk

Customer Services Advisor P/T

Maidstone

Salary: £17k - £18k pr rata
Closing Date: Friday 6th November 2009
 Customer Services Advisor P/T £17k - £18k pr rata 2.5 days per week Working for Kent's renowned music provider, Kent Music, this is an excellent opportunity for an administration orientated person to work in the music and education sector. Please call 01622 358435 for an application form. More

information on Kent Music can be found on: www.kent-music.com Deadline for applications Friday 6th November 2009 Interviews will be held w/b 16th November 2009.
To apply/more information: Kent Music School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01622 358435
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Instrumental Tutor (Music)

Ramsgate

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 6th November 2009
 Applications are invited for the post of Instrumental Tutor (Music) required to support the Music Department in the delivery of tuition in the following areas: Drums Piano Applications are welcome from graduates of music or music education, and from candidates who hold other professional qualifications in music. Successful candidates will teach individual lessons or in small groups of 2/3 pupils. Lessons are 30 minute periods and successful candidates will be expected to address the individual needs of pupils. Instructors will be expected to teach from beginner level and should develop and lead small ensembles for public performances. Instructors will be employed on a peripatetic basis, meeting demand as required. CVs and letters of application by post to the address above FAO: Jennifer Spooner HR Manager or via jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk. You should state the post you are applying for, your principal instrument and your suitability for such a post. Appointments are subject to an enhanced CRB check. Closing date for applications: 6th November 2009
To apply/more information: Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email jenniferspooner@marloweacademy.co.uk

SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER

Broadstairs

Salary: £26,421 to £30,219 pr rata
Closing Date: Wednesday 11th November 2009
 SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER required from 4th January 2010 or as soon as possible after that date. Grade KS9 (£26,421 to £30,219 pr rata) 37 hours per week Term Time + 4 weeks (42 weeks per annum) The Foreland School is seeking a School Business Manager to be responsible for the Financial and Personnel Management of the school as well as oversee the smooth running of the School Office with a team of office personnel. The School Business Manager will be a member of the School Leadership Team. Plans are underway under BSF initiative, focussing on a rebuild of The Foreland School (Broadstairs) with a rebuild of Hartsdown Technology College on the current Hartsdown site in Margate. The Foreland School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils and will carry out an Enhanced CRB on successful applicants. For an application pack please email janetpayne@foreland.kent.sch.uk or ring the school office from Tuesday 3rd November 2009. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 11th November 2009 Interview date to be Friday 20th November.
To apply/more information: Foreland School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email janetpayne@foreland.kent.sch.uk

TEMPORARY TEACHER

Medway

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 13th November 2009
 Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff, efforts, work and achievement are celebrated. We are currently looking for a TEMPORARY TEACHER for pupils with severe and profound learning difficulties Starting 4th January until 1st April 2010 (fixed term contract) MPS + 2 SEN Points The school is located in pleasant surroundings and we have educational resources of enviable proportions. This post would suit newly qualified teachers or those wishing to gain further experience of SEN. Comprehensive induction and training will be provided. Telephone enquiries and informal visits to the school welcomed This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. **Closing Date:** 13th November 2009 For further details and a job description, please contact Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Rochester, Kent ME2 3SP (Tel: 01634 338236)
To apply/more information: Abbey Court School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01634 338236
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Estate Agency, Property

Full-time Estate Agency and Lettings Staff Required

Kent

Salary: tba
 Following a successful 2009 we have a number of new positions available from Sales and Lettings Consultants to Senior Consultants / Valuers. These positions are located in the Mid Kent Region. So if you looking to start a new career or even embark on a career change, this could be your opportunity. Your Move is a progressive, people focussed company dedicated to achieving the highest levels of customer service. We are looking for like minded candidates who are highly driven, self motivated, enthusiastic and ambitious. Experience within the industry is an advantage, although full training will be provided. The positions are diverse incorporating residential property sales and lettings and the successful candidates will have career prospects. A full driving licence is required. Candidates wishing to apply should write or e-mail enclosing full CV with contact details to: Oliver Blake - Area Director Your Move 93 Commercial Road Paddock Wood Kent TN12 6DS
To apply/more information: Oliver Blake
 Your Move
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email oliver.blake2@your-move.co.uk

Leisure, Tourism, Travel

Class leaders

Faversham

Salary: TBA
 Interested In Health & Wellness? Class leaders wanted for Arriba! Wellness Clubs £1,000-£2,500 per month F/T or P/T Full Training Available Call Sara on 01795 532201 www.arriba-classleaders.co.uk
To apply/more information: Sara Jane Marmont
Quoting Job Ref: kos

Tel: 01795 532201
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Wait staff

Ramsgate

Salary: TBA
 Wait staff wanted for fine dining restaurant in Ramsgate. Experience essential. Must be able to work weekends and evenings. Please send CV to info@ageandsons.co.uk
To apply/more information: Age & Sons
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email info@ageandsons.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Operations Manager

Canterbury

Salary: Pro-rata £25,000 / initially 3 days a week (flexible)
Closing Date: 5pm 9 November 2009
 We are looking for an experienced person to be responsible for the smooth running of our innovative charity; supporting and overseeing areas such as administration, communications, finance and fundraising. Canterbury based. For more information see www.peopleunited.org.uk, email us or contact Tom Andrews on 01227 470973.
To apply/more information: Tom Andrews
 People United
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01227 470973
 Email info@peopleunited.org.uk

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Marketing, Advertising

MARKETING EXECUTIVES

Folkestone

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 13 November 2009
 "Marketing for the over 50s?" It's anything but grey. MARKETING EXECUTIVES Competitive salaries + excellent benefits packages 1 FOLKESTONE Here at Saga, we offer a wide range of quality insurance and financial services products that meet the needs of today's over-50s. Our product range includes home, motor and health insurance as well as savings accounts and credit cards. Innovative direct marketing has played a huge part in our success, and we've built an enviable reputation as one of the leading players in the UK. Now comes the chance to bring your direct marketing skills to this exciting environment. A range of opportunities are available to work on a broad spectrum of activities, including email, direct mailings and press campaigns. A marketing related degree or equivalent experience, combined with creativity and an eye for detail will be essential. If you are looking to develop high impact direct marketing for our range of insurance and financial services products, please send your CV with a covering letter, stating current salary and quoting reference SS339/KOS, to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR

Officer, Saga Group Limited, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or email: human.resources@saga.co.uk
Closing Date: 13 November 2009. saga.co.uk
To apply/more information: Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SS339/KOS
 Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Marketing Officer

Canterbury

Salary: TBA
 Canterbury City Council needs a Marketing Officer Apply online at www.canterbury.gov.uk/jobs
To apply/more information: Canterbury City Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

General Assistant

Canterbury

Salary: £6.00 ph
 TRUE GRIP DRIVER TRAINING LTD (Near Canterbury) require a General Assistant £6.00 ph Saturday and Sunday 8am to 5pm (approx) and some weekdays For more information please call 01227 363 323 or email kevin.cawood@truegripoffroad.co.uk
To apply/more information: True Grip Driver Training
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 01227 363 323
 Email kevin.cawood@truegripoffroad.co.uk

Owner drivers

Medway

Salary: TBA
 Owner drivers required with bikes, small vans, transits, sprinters, and 7.5T Lorries/Box Truck with Tail Gate to carry out same day deliveries nationwide and European for a local transport company. Excellent rates of pay immediate start, please call Kiri on 0844 335 6919 Visit www.transoluk.com
To apply/more information: Transol Worldwide Logistics Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
 Tel: 0844 335 6919
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Not for profit, Charities

Youth fundraising co-ordinator

Canterbury

Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 11th November 2009
 An exciting opportunity has arisen for the above post designed to focus on involving young people in fundraising within Pilgrims Hospices. The Youth Fundraising Co-ordinator will be responsible for the development of fundraising and volunteering within schools, colleges and universities. The successful applicant will have experience of community fundraising, public speaking and have excellent communication skills. The applicant will be personable, approachable and able to relate well to people at all levels. Additionally they will be IT literate with excellent planning skills and an eye for detail, have access to own transport and be willing to work flexibly with minimum supervision. For a full job description and application form please download from www.pilgrimshospice.org
To apply/more information: Pilgrims Hospice
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk



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Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Carer

Herne Bay

Salary: Starting salary £6.24-£6.86 p.h
HMT Care is dedicated to the care of people diagnosed within the spectrum of neuro-disability, particularly HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE. We provide an holistic and person-centred approach to care and require dedicated and committed staff to work with us. Duties will include personal care and day-to-day assistance and support of residents. A competitive salary, promotion prospects, accredited specialist training, together with NVQ opportunities, is our commitment to you. Previous experience and qualifications are an advantage, but are not essential. Part-time and full-time hours are available. Also part-time Nights.

To request an application form and information please call weekdays between 10am and 4pm

To apply/more information:
Nana or Paul
HMT Care Ltd

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 742992
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Assistant Manager

Folkestone

Salary: TBA
Assistant Manager Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above. Please call Miss Julia Carter (Home Manager) on 01303 254019 Subject to satisfactory CRB Check

To apply/more information:
Cumbria House Residential Home

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 254019
Email cumbriahouse@ashwoodhealthcare.co.uk

Registered Nurses

Canterbury

Salary: Salary negotiable
NICHOLAS JAMES CARE HOMES Ltd Dale Road Southfleet Kent DA13 9NX Registered Nurses required by the above company for homes in the Canterbury, Whitstable, Herne Bay area. Salary negotiable

For further details please contact: Tina Thomas Business Development Manager Email: tina.thomas@njch.co.uk Tel: 07939 045304

To apply/more information:
Nicholas James Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07939 045304
Email tina.thomas@njch.co.uk

Support Workers

Medway

Salary: From £13,250
Is this the job for you? ACH is a fast-growing organisation, developing new, high-quality residential homes for adults with Learning Disabilities. Due to our continued growth we now require for our homes in STROOD • BOBBING • GRAVESEND We also require BANK WORKERS For an application pack please visit our website at www.achuk.com. Alternatively e-mail louise.burrows@achuk.com or contact Human Resources on 0208 502 8871.

To apply/more information:
Louise Burrows
ACH Care Homes Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 502 8871
Email louise.burrows@achuk.com

RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS

Canterbury

Salary: £11,620
RESIDENTIAL SUPPORT WORKERS FOR CHILDREN'S HOME SALARY RANGE £11620 (Trainee Grade) to £24,000 pa. Plus Increments and allowances
We are looking for Residential support workers at all levels including Deputy Managers to complement our existing team and to build a second team for our new home. The work is challenging, rewarding, and

important. You will be joining a team of experienced professionals dedicated to providing therapeutic care within a homely and nurturing environment for our children and young people. To find out more please contact our Manager Lyn Gibbs on 01227 369089 or visit our website to download an application form: www.benecareltd.co.uk For informal discussion and advice on other related opportunities please contact Steve Richmond, Director on 07710 145802 or 01892 740886.

To apply/more information:
Bene Care

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 369089
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Support Worker

Tunbridge Wells

Salary: TBA

Closing Date: Monday 2nd November 2009

Seven Springs, Pembury Road Tunbridge Wells Full time Support Worker required to work in busy friendly Residential Home for physically disabled adults. Experienced preferred but not essential as full training will be given. For an application form and job description, please contact us on 01892 531138 during office hours. Closing date Monday 2nd November 2009

To apply/more information:
Leonard Cheshire Disability
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 531138
Email info@carersfirst.org.uk

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 531138
Email sue.french@lcdisability.org

Parent Carer Support Worker

Tonbridge

Salary: Part-Time 15 hours
Salary £17,419 p.a pro rata
Closing Date: 6 November 2009

We seek a highly motivated person to join our experienced team to identify and support the needs of parents of children who are ill or disabled. The role is to provide advocacy, emotional and practical support and lead support groups. Previous knowledge of social and health care gained either in the statutory or voluntary sector and driving license is desirable. Enhanced CRB check. Other benefits include access to a healthcare plan, childcare vouchers, reduced rate membership to a local health club, excellent holiday entitlement, training and development opportunities. For an application pack, please call Micheala Clack

To apply/more information:
Micheala Clack
Carers First

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 357555
Email info@carersfirst.org.uk

Full time and part time carers

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

"Littlebourne House Care Home" Require Full time and part time carers Day and night. And Cleaners Full time and part time. For more information Please call – Maralyn on Tel: 01227 721527.

To apply/more information:
Littlebourne House

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 721527
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Other

Qualified Barber with Wet Shave Experience

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Need a new challenge? Are you the best at what you do? Do you need a new challenge? Can you deliver a level of service that exceeds industry standards? Valet Canterbury is THE premier male grooming facility in Kent. The flagship Canterbury store is opening in December and we are looking for highly skilled and motivated team players to join the Valet Canterbury team. As a successful member of the Valet team you will enjoy a strong basic salary and an impressive commission structure. Please email your CV. Shortlisted

To apply/more information:
Micheala Clack
Carers First
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 357555
Email info@carersfirst.org.uk

candidates will be contacted for interview. No agencies.

To apply/more information:

Valet Canterbury Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email recruitment@valet-canterbury.com

Qualified Hair Stylist

Canterbury

Salary: TBA

Are you the best at what you do? Do you need a new challenge? Can you deliver a level of service that exceeds industry standards? Valet Canterbury is THE premier male grooming facility in Kent. The flagship Canterbury store is opening in December, and we are looking for highly skilled and motivated team players to join the Valet Canterbury team. As a successful member of the Valet team you will enjoy a strong basic salary and an impressive commission structure. Please email your CV. Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interview. No agencies.

To apply/more information:
Valet Canterbury Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email recruitment@valet-canterbury.com

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Email recruitment@valet-canterbury.com

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To apply/more information:

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HIGHWAYS - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (OUT ELMSTEAD LANE, BARHAM AND BLACK ROBIN LANE, KINGSTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that to maintain a safe working space during the construction of a bridleway bridge over the A2, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Out Elmstead Lane, Barham and Black Robin Lane, Kingston, from their junctions with the A2, for a distance of 10 metres. This takes effect on or after 2 November 2009, for an estimated period of 14 weeks, or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be (a) for Out Elmstead Lane via A2 Dover road, Bishopsbourne off-slip, Bonny Bush Hill, Black Robin Lane and Valley Road, and (b) for Black Robin Lane via A2 Dover Road, Bishopsbourne off-slip and Bonny Bush Hill

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BROOMFIELD ROAD, HERNE BAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gas main replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Broomfield Road, Herne Bay at the junction with Hunters Chase to Gorse Lane on or after 2 November 2009 for an estimated period of 6 weeks or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Gorse Lane, Hunters Forstal Road, Margate Road (South) and The Meadows.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BEKESBOURNE LANE AND BEKESBOURNE HILL, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gully cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bekesbourne Lane and Bekesbourne Hill Canterbury, from its junction with the A257 Littlebourne Road to Station Road on or after 4 November 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days between the hours of 9:00am to 3:00pm or until the works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via the A257 Canterbury Road, The Hill, High Street, The Green and Bekesbourne Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (FAVERSHAM ROAD AND JOY LANE, WHITSTABLE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of carriageway resurfacing, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Faversham Road and Joy Lane, Whitstable as described in columns 1 & 2 of the Schedule to this Order, on or after 4 November 2009 as shown in column 4 of the Schedule.

The alternative route for through traffic will be as shown in column 3 of the Schedule.

Schedule

Specified road	Length of road affected	Alternative route	Programmed date
Phase 1			
Faversham Road, Whitstable	between the junction with Seasalter Lane and The Sportsman public house	Westbound via Church Lane, A2990 Thanet Way, A290 Clapham Hill, west onto A299 Thanet Way, Staple Street, Staple Street Road, Head Hill Road and Seasalter Road Eastbound via Faversham Road, Seasalter Road, Head Hill Road, Whitstable Road, A299 Thanet Way, A2990 Thanet Way, Borstal Hill and Joy Lane	From 4 November 2009 for up to 6 days
Phase 2			
Faversham Road and Joy Lane, Whitstable	Faversham Road from the junction with Church Lane through to Joy Lane for its entire length	Church Lane, Thanet Way and Borstall Hill	From 23 November 2009 for up to 5 nights

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL HILL RISE, DARENTH (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hill Rise, Darenth between its junctions with Green Street Green Road to Langlands Drive.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start on the 3rd November and last 5 days between 08:00 – 17:00. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Green Street Green Road, Ladywood Road and Langlands Drive.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL ALAMEIN ROAD, SWANSCOMBE (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Alamein Road, Swanscombe between its junctions with Milton Street to Bodle Avenue.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start on the 7th November and last 2 days between 08:00 – 17:00. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Milton Street, Manor Road and Bodle Avenue.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS) (PROVISION OF DISABLED PERSONS PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2009 (1) ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

Notice is hereby given that on 21 October 09 Kent County Council made an Order under Sections 32(i) and 35(i) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and all other enabling powers, and after consultations in accordance with schedule 9 to the Act.

The effect of this Order is to authorise Disabled Person Parking Bays (DPPBs), on the public highway at the following locations:

Bayly Road	54 Bayly Road. East side of Bayly Road from the boundary of numbers 54/56 for a distance of 6.6 metres in a northerly direction to a point 1.4 metres north of the southern boundary of number 52b.
Princes Avenue	76 Princes Avenue. West side of Princes Avenue from the boundary of 74/76 for a distance of 6.6 metres in a southerly direction to the boundary of number 76.
Burnham Road	24 Burnham Road. East side of Burnham Road from the boundary of 24/26 for a distance of 6.6 metres in a southerly direction.
Burnham Road	20 Burnham Road. East side of Burnham Road from the boundary of number 20/22 for a distance of 6.6 metres in a southerly direction to a point 1.6 metres south of the northerly boundary of number 18.
Knockhall Road	1 The Flats Knockhall Road. South side of Knockhall Road from the boundary of flats 3 & 4 – 1 & 2 for a distance of 6.6 metres in an easterly direction.
Colney Road	78 Colney Road. North side of Colney Road from boundary of 78/80 for a distance of 6.6 metres in a westerly direction to a point 2.1 metres west of the eastern boundary of The Coop

The effect of this Order is to create on-street parking places in the above mentioned locations for any blue badge holder, where waiting is permitted wholly within the marked bay at all times.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made thereunder, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL KNOLE ROAD, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Knole Road, Dartford at Southern exit on to Shepherds Lane.

The Order will become effective on 16th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Knole Road, Chastilian Road, Princes Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate works to prevent future flooding.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (AGESTER LANE, DENTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because BT duct installation works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Agester Lane, Denton from the junction with Snow Hill to the junction with Lodge Lees Road on or after 5 November 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via The Street, Canterbury Road and Snow Hill.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Gravesham

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL MANOR ROAD, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Manor Road, Gravesend between its junctions with Windmill Street to Parrock Street.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 8th November and last 1 day. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate excavation and duct laying.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL MAPLETON ROAD, WESTERHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Mapleton Road, Westerham between Chartwell House to its Junction with Hosey Common Road.

The Order will become effective on 16th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 18th November 2009 and last 17 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: B2026 Hosey Common Road, B269 Sprout Lane and Pootings Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a new duct laying for BT.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL BARR ROAD, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Barr Road, Gravesend between its junctions with Thong Lane to Forge Lane.

The Order will become effective on 16th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start 17th November 2009 and last 5 days between 08.00 – 18.00 hours. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Forge Lane, Rochester Way and Thong Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate strengthening surfacing scheme

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL ALANBROOKE, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Alanbrooke, Gravesend at its junction with Haig Gardens to the end of the Road.

The Order will become effective on 16th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 3 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate resurfacing works.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (WHITE HILL ROAD, DETLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on White Hill Road, outside Boston Elms on or after Monday 2nd November 2009 for a period of up to 3 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is for westbound traffic via Scragged Oak Road, Cox Street, Magpie Lane, Yaugher Lane, Matts Hill Road, White Hill Road and for eastbound traffic via versea.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to provide a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Scott Davis of Amber Langis Limited on 01474 573831.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CHURCH STREET, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Church Street between Wyke Manor Road and Marsham Street on or after Monday 2nd November 2009 for a period of up to 4 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the above restriction is for traffic via Union Street, Wyatt Street, Marsham Street, Church Street.

Natta Building Company Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to construct a new storm sewer and to connect to an existing manhole. Should you require any further information regarding these works, the contact is Joanne Murray on 01252 851155.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, SEVENOAKS) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on various roads, Sevenoaks as noted in the attached schedule 1.

The Order will become effective on 2nd November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last as noted in attached schedule. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: as per the attached schedule.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate gully cleansing and drainage works.

Schedule 1

Road name	Extent	Dates	Diversion
Well Hill, Crockenhill	From Parkgate Road to Rock Hill	5th November through to 6th November 2009 between 0900 – 1500 9th November through to 11th November 2009 between 0900 - 1500	Rock Hill, Hawstead Lane, Buck Cross Road, Skibbs Lane, Skeet Hill Lane, Parkgate Road
Butchers Lane, Ash-Cum-Ridley	From West Yoke Road to Chapel Wood Road	25th November 2009 for 3 days 0900 - 1500	West Yoke Road, Chapel Wood Road

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL BAYHAM ROAD, SEVENOAKS (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Bayham Road, Sevenoaks outside number 82.

The Order will become effective on 16th November 2009, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to start 17th November 2009 and last 5 days between 09.00 – 15.00 hours. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Vine Court Road, Avenue Road, Dartford Road, St Johns Hill and Quakers Hall Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate electrical maintenance works.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS - District of Swale**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**

(THREAD LANE, HERNHILL) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because gully cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Thread Lane, Hernhill from Dawes Road to junction with Crockham Lane and Crockham Road on or after 2 November 2009 for an estimated period of 3 days between the hours of 9.00am and 3.00pm or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Dawes Road, Staplestreet Road, Church Hill, Crockham Lane and Crockham Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(DODDINGTON LANE, DODDINGTON) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because carriageway resurfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Doddington Lane, Doddington from the junction of Kingsdown Road to the junction of Downs Court Road on or after 2 November 2009 for an estimated period of 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Downs Court Road, Sawpit Road, Pitstock Road and Kingsdown Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(ALMHOUSE ROAD AND HEEL ROAD, THROWLEY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to move overhead power cables and install new electrical supplies, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Almhouse Road and Heel Road, Throwley, on or after 17 November 2009, for an estimated period of up to 5 weeks or until the works are complete.

Almhouse Road will be closed between Mill House and Forge House from 17 November for up to three weeks. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Pettfield Hill Road and Throwley Road. The alternative route will be via Almhouse Road, Housefield Road and Throwley Road.

Heel Road will be closed in the vicinity of Heel Farm from 8 December for up to 9 days. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions of Housefield Road and Cross Lane. The alternative route will be via Housefield Road, Almhouse Road and Cross Lane.

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**

(FOADS LANE, CLIFFSEND) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because track maintenance repair works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Foads Lane, Cliffsend at the level crossing on or after 7 November 2009 for an estimated period of 2 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Foads Hill, A299 Canterbury Road West, Lord of the Manor Roundabout, A256 Sandwich Road, Cliffs End Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(POORHOLE LANE, BROADSTAIRS AND ST PETERS) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because drainage works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Poorhole Lane, Broadstairs and St Peters outside The Cottage and Westwood Lodge on or after 2nd November 2009 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Westwood Road and Margate Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(FLETE ROAD, MARGATE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because soakaway cleansing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Flete Road, Margate at various locations near Bedima on or after 16 November 2009 for an estimated period of 5 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Vincent Road, Manston Road.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**

(FORD LANE, WROTHAM HEATH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Ford Lane between Wrotham Water Road and Addington Lane on or after Monday 16th November 2009 for a period of up to 10 working days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for northbound traffic via A20 London Road, Trottscliffe Road, Addington Lane and for southbound traffic vice versa.

South East Water Ltd apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to slip line a new water main through the existing main. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Brendan MacLellan on 1634 873902.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tunbridge Wells**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL**

(SMALLBRIDGE ROAD, HORSMONDEN) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Smallbridge Road, Horsmonden between Brick Kiln Lane and Smallbridge Cottages on or after Tuesday 17th November 2009 for a period of up to 3 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Brick Kiln Lane, Goudhurst Road, Ballard's Hill, B2079 North Road, Lidwells Lane and for westbound traffic vice versa.

EDF apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to repair and install a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Scott Davis on 01474 573831.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(VARIOUS ROADS IN THE BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

The Kent County Council, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended by Section 14 of the Road Traffic (Temporary Restrictions) Act 1991 and all other enabling powers, hereby intends to make the following Order prohibiting and restricting the use by traffic on the routes described in column 1 of Schedule 1 hereto:-

1. Notice is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road (Necessary highway maintenance), that traffic on various routes in Tunbridge Wells in Column 1 of the schedule 1 hereto will be prohibited or restricted. The alternative route for each route is described in Column 2.

2. The works as cited in 1 above will also require the suspension of the bus lane on Mount Pleasant Road opposite the War Memorial and the prohibition of traffic other than buses and cycles going through the Five Ways bus gateway.

The provisions of the Kent County Council (A263 Mount Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells) (Combined Cycle and Bus Lane) Order 2003 and the provisions of Articles 8 and 10 of the Kent County Council (Traffic Restrictions) (Five Ways) Order 1998, are hereby suspended whilst the provisions of this Order are in force.

The order will come into operation on or after 13th November 2009 and will be valid for a maximum period of up to 18 months or until the works are completed. (Whichever is sooner).

Details of the actual dates for the restrictions can be found in column 3 of Schedule 1 below.

This Order may be cited as "The Kent County Council (Various Roads in Tunbridge Wells) (Prohibition of Traffic) Temporary Order 2009".

Schedule 1

The affected routes	The alternative routes	Start and finish dates
A264 Mount Ephraim, Tunbridge Wells. From Lime Hill Road to A26 London Road (Including Grosvenor Road roundabout).	Northbound traffic via A264 Mount Ephraim or A26 London Road, A264 Church Road, A263 Mount Pleasant Road, A263 Grosvenor Road. (And vice versa for Southbound traffic).	Start: 14/11/2009 End: 15/11/2009
A26 London Road/St John's Road, Tunbridge Wells. From A263 Grosvenor Road roundabout to Culverden Park.	Northbound traffic via A263 Grosvenor Road, Upper Grosvenor Road, Highfield Road, High Brooms Road, Yew Tree Road, A26 London Road and A26 St John's Road. (And vice versa for southbound traffic).	Start: 21/11/2009 End: 22/11/2009
Suspension of the bus lane on Mount Pleasant Road, Tunbridge Wells opposite the War Memorial and the prohibition of traffic other than buses and cycles going through the Five Ways bus gateway.	Not Applicable	Start: 14/11/2009 End: 15/11/2009

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**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP
ACT 2004**

**APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES &
CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **Nurstead Court, Nurstead Church Lane, Meopham
Guy Edmeades-Stearns**

Applicant:

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Giles Adey
Head of Registration
Regulatory Services
First Floor, Invicta House
Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX



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**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS -
NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS**

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/09/02580/FL - Blossom Lingerie Boutique Unit 6 Mill Yard 26 Swan Street West Malling Kent ME19 6LP - Mr Steven O'Neill is applying for change of use from A1 to A2. Reason: CA

TM/09/02385/FL - 32 Mount Pleasant Aylesford Kent ME20 7BE - Mr Christopher Bubb is applying for relocation of bathroom and loft conversion. Reason: CA LB HH

TM/09/02381/FL - Appledene Farm Norman Road West Malling Kent - Mrs Jeanett Bellamy is applying for alteration to site entrance. Reason: HA

TM/09/02470/FL - Hillview Fen Pond Road Ightham Sevenoaks TN15 9JD - Mr Graeme Pringuer is applying for hardstanding area for parking two cars. Reason: HH CA LB

Reasons for the case being publicised:

- LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
- CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
- HA Site is over 1ha.
- HH Householder application - As this is a householder application, in the event of an appeal against a refusal of planning permission, which is to be dealt with on the basis of representations in writing, any representations made about this application will be sent to the Secretary of State, and there will be no further opportunity to comment at appeal stage.

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk - click on the button "Online Planning" (then View Existing Applications and select Public Access). You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below). Please note that we will publish a copy of any representations received on the Council's website, including your name and address.

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ. Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 22 November 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive

1 November 2009



For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services,
on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



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By **STEVE LOADER**

NOT only is Toyota the world's No1 car manufacturer by volume, but also now a leader in 'greening' its range, by slashing CO2 emissions.

According to research by the Cleangreencars website Toyota is the first car maker in the UK to dip below the 130g/km average for carbon emissions across its model line-up.

This puts it more than three years ahead of a target set by the European Union for all car manufacturers to achieve by 2013.

Jay Nagle of Cleangreencars said: "It means no mainstream car manufacturer has an excuse for failing to meet the target in future."

High profile

Toyota's exceptional progress will come as no surprise given the high profile enjoyed by the pioneering Prius petrol-electric hybrid – a third-generation car was launched earlier this year.

Now with a road tax exempt 89g/km of CO2m, it makes a considerable contribution to lowering the Japanese marque's average emissions figures.

Less obvious are the gains made from Toyota reinventing the internal combustion engine through its 'Optimal Drive' technologies, delivering the apparently contradictory benefits of more power with lower fuel consumption and emissions.

The brand now has an engine Stop and

Toyota uses its IQ to claim green title

GREEN MACHINES:
The Toyota iQ (main)
and Aygo



Start system too, available on its Yaris supermini and family hatchback Auris models, which can lower CO2 emissions considerably in urban traffic where there is interrupted traffic flow and more traffic lights.

Shrewdly, Toyota also led a triple alliance to design and build a small city car for construction in Europe; launched in 2005, the Aygo – also marketed with cosmetic differences as the Peugeot 107

and Citroën C1 – has further helped bring down Toyota's overall CO2 count.

This little three and five-door car appears to have been a better UK seller than Toyota expected too, helped by the recession and buyers' looking to cut motoring budgets; Kent dealers report they cannot get enough stock to feed demand.

But the Aygo now has an even smaller and greener rival in the Toyota range, following the launch earlier this year of the quite brilliant 3+1-seat IQ city car.

Just a hand span longer than the two-seat Smart ForTwo city car, the Toyota offers so much more space and a more conventional driving experience and, of course, adds to Toyota's low emissions record.

With a full petrol-electric hybrid Auris confirmed for UK production and sale in late 2010, Toyota has really put the pressure on rivals to shape up well ahead of the EU emissions target for 2013.



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FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Latest Titanium green and posh



FORD has emphasised that you don't have to wear the equivalent of a hair shirt and sandals to go 'eco' behind the wheel.

The proof is a Mondeo with frugal low-emission 115PS (113bhp) 2.0-litre turbodiesel in full flagship Titanium spec, but all of the trappings of the brand's ECONetic line-up.

Targeting user choosers who are increasingly conscious of company car tax costs yet reluctant to give up creature comforts, the model is offered as five-door hatch or estate.

Both deliver CO2 emissions of 139g/km (road tax £120/yr) and a combined fuel economy of 54.3mpg. Aiding the car's greener road footprint are: Y-Spoke lightweight alloys (pictured), optimum gear change indicator, aerodynamically optimised sports suspension and air deflectors and, for the five-door only, rear spoiler.

Prices start at £23,295 for the five-door and £24,545 for the estate – only slightly higher than equivalent 'standard' Titanium 2.0 140PS TDCi models.

SPORTING sub-brand Renaultsport has created the ultimate performance Mégane – at least for now.

The Mégane Renaultsport 250 is powered by a 2.0-litre turbocharged engine delivering power across a broad rev band for maximum road and track enjoyment.

There is a choice of two chassis: standard Sport and Cup, the latter featuring a limited slip differential to help apply the engine's prodigious power through the front wheels.

The newcomer makes the most of the current Mégane Coupé's sleek lines, but the wheel arches are extended to accommodate 18



The Ultimate Mégane

or 19-inch wheels, while the front F1-type aerodynamic blade. bumper has a wide air intake and Prices start at £21,995.

THIS is the car that signifies the major shift of philosophy for Peugeot.

Until now, the French marque has left group competition in the quality MPV sector largely to its Citroën partner brand's successful Picasso line-up.

Peugeot has concentrated instead largely on enhanced SW estate versions of its cars, but not all customers 'get' the point of the conventional yet roomy SWs even though some feature seven seats.

Dealers have made their point to Peugeot management too, forcing the change of heart; we have already seen the arrival of the clever 3008 SUV/MPV crossover and we can expect this smart new 5008 MPV in January.

Priced from £16,895 with seven seats, three trim levels and a high quality interior, this should please dealers and their customers alike.

Peugeot makes a smart MPV move



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Vehicle shown features mica paint available at extra cost of £325. 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £249. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev/9242). Scrappage Allowance subject to eligibility, please ask for terms and conditions.

by
STEVELOADER

PROOF that enthusiasm and prejudice can often overturn common sense came in the inaugural What Car? Reader Awards poll.

OK, it was hard to fault most of the selections in the Top 10:

- 2) Fiat 500 at No2: yes, a great little city car/supermini with bags of style and cheap to run too.
- 3) Mazda's ever-young MX-5: pound for pound still the most fun you can have with the top down.
- 4) Porsche 911: enough said, if you can afford one. And Porsche also nabbed the No8 slot with the smaller and cheaper Cayman, which many people think is a threat to the 911 itself.
- 5) Audi A5: it just looks a class act.
- 6) Jaguar XK: the current car still has a grand air about it and next year's replacement is a real head turner.

Skoda also crept into the ratings at 10, with its excellent Octavia all-rounder.

Yes, yes, but what was No1?

Answer: the Land Rover Defender.

What Car? editor Steve Fowler – rather dutifully perhaps – said: "The Land Rover Defender has always had a devoted following and owners love what the car does for them."

"It's far from the most sophisticated car on the road, but its no-nonsense approach and longevity are what our readers like most about it."

I can't disagree that the Defender is an icon, still one of the world's most capable off-roaders and something automotive that Britain can still be proud of – God knows we have so little else left – but surely this heavy, bumpy and still rather crude workhorse is not the

Veteran 4x4 drives rough shod over common sense



SURPRISE: The Land Rover Defender, winner of the What Car? Readers Awards poll

best that Joe Public can offer?

There were a couple of other wrong uns in the top ten too – you may have noticed the breaks in my earlier rundown.

These were the distinctly average Peugeot 407 (No7) – the grave beckons – and the rarely-seen Noddy car known as the Daihatsu Copen (No9).

True, the (not) Copen has a lively little engine and a proper folding hardtop and lots of kit, but this front-driven mini-convertible is hardly fit to be in the same company as an MX-5.

Mind you, I'll take some pleasure from the readers' choices for the bottom 10 places in the poll.

The Ford Focus CC (coupe convertible) propped up the entire pile due to a litany of reliability problems – it's no looker either.

Other 'lemons' identified included the Nissan Navara; hopefully, this result signals an end to some drivers' infatuation with cowboy shirts and boots, country music and easily satisfied driving pleasure, leaving the big Nissan and its ilk to those who



LEMON: Nissan Navara – now's the time to throw away the cowboy gear?



RELEGATED: The Perodua Kelisa's budget charms were shunned

really need a big 4x4 pick-up to get around.

It was strange to see the little Perodua Kelisa (nee Daihatsu Cuore) relegated to the lowest division though. Yes it's got a funny name, but the little five-door is fun to drive and cheap to buy and run – prices start from £4,500.

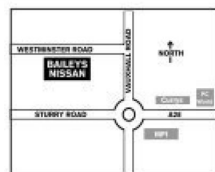
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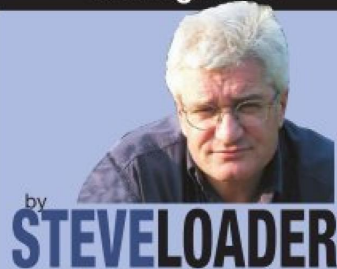
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DrivingReview



by
STEVELOADER

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

SuzukiSwift

FAR East car makers don't half set themselves up for it with some of the names they use.

I can't wait for some Chinese crackers to make it to our motor market, and we've had Korean winners too – the Rodius fits well with the odious looks of this gargantuan MPV made by Ssangyong.

But the Japanese have been in the game longer and Suzuki continually attracted jokes with the Swift; if you name something after a bird symbolising speed and superiority in the air, then you can expect a kicking for falling short of such excellence.

So Suzuki was duffed over for a succession of mediocre cars bearing the name Swift.

Indeed, these supermini class – and I use the latter word loosely – models tended to signal the Japanese brand's rather cheap and not so cheerful approach to car making in recent years.

But what has focussed minds at Suzuki is tougher competition from the carmakers of Korea.

Suzuki's Swift lift in the name game



Such stern encouragement resulted in a new generation of impressive new Suzukis and a commitment to overhaul the entire

range within just a few years.

The current Swift is the prime example of the rethink, taking Suzuki from pretty much

the dunce's corner to the front row, if not top of the supermini class.

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Official government fuel consumption figures (mpg/litres per 100km) for the smart fortwo cdi: urban 83.1/3.4, extra urban 88.3/3.2, combined 85.6/3.3, CO2 emissions 88 g/km.

Model featured is the new smart fortwo cdi cabriolet passion at £10,880.42 on the road (on the road price includes VAT, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, number plates, first registration fee and fuel), including Crystal white paint at £0.00, Tridion safety cell in silver at £0.00 and Design beige interior at £0.00.

smart - A Daimler Brand



talking to consumers and just about anyone else who might have some input and it shows – though isn't this how cars should be created anyway?

The Swift has its own distinctive shape and sleek light housings, but there is also a hint of the BMW Mini about it, with the exaggerated wide stance, blacked out windscreen pillars and shallow rear side windows.

Suzuki has done its homework elsewhere too; quality has been hiked, with smart and durable materials inside for a car in this class and at prices starting from just £8,995 for the 1.3GL three-door.

OK, I admit it was easier to be impressed when our test car was the £1,555 dearer 1.5GLX five-door, which brings air-con and alloys and some other generous goodies, but it still represents excellent value.

The Swift interior has lots of smart alloy effect trimming and sensible storage and decent room for four passengers. The two-level boot with removable false floor is large and flexible for this class too.

The dashboard is logical, smart and gimmick-free but, best of all, the Swift is closer



to its airborne namesake this time; it's a sweet handling, versatile and thoroughly satisfying drive – a cut-price Mini if you like – and there's a 'hot' 1.6-litre Sport model too offering 0-62mph in 8.9 seconds.

Not that this overshadows the 1.5-litre much; this will hit 62mph in 10 seconds and has all the latest Swift hallmarks: tight steering, flat cornering and slick gearbox, while ride quality and motorway refinement is not sacrificed totally to deliver such driver appeal, though this engine can sound buzzy at times.

Unlike past Swifts it is also available with a diesel (£11,250) – courtesy of Fiat – that brings an average of 60mpg within reach.

A further yet invisible attraction to the newcomer is worth mentioning; Suzuki's design and material quality may have been lacking in the past, but you don't see too many of its cars broken down, so this much improved Swift retains the brand's old style reliability.

So, from being something of a misnomer, the Suzuki Swift is flying high and fast in its own airspace; it is cheaper than cars perceived to be on a loftier perch and can also now look down on those once threatening upstarts from Korea.



DrivingPortfolio

SUZUKI SWIFT 1.5 GLX FIVE-DOOR £10,550

Driving appeal	★★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★
Value	★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
How green	★★★★
Road tax	£150/year
Best rival	Mazda2

TheVerdict



DON'T LIKE:

some buzziness from the 1.5-litre engine, but it does rev freely



NOT SURE:

the car is quite as good value as it was when it was launched in 2005



REALLY LIKE:

the Swift's ability to be sporty yet comfortable – simply one of the best superminis around

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Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost of £400. 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost (Cruze £249, Epica and Captiva £349). Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. Savings against current man. rec. price at time of publication and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press. (Chev82106)

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Discount price of £4,595 relates to Matiz 0.8 S model only (for Aveo 1.2 S 3dr £6,145). Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325 and Aveo £350). 3 years/30,000 miles Fixed Price Service Package at an optional cost of £249. The savings are against current MRP and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 31st December 2009. Prices correct at time of press. At participating retailers only. *£2,000 Government Scrappage Allowance is dependent on the vehicle meeting the full Government Scrappage incentive criteria. When traded in against a new car subject to conditions and whilst Government funding applies. The Government Scrappage payment applies to vehicles registered on or before 31.08.99 when traded in against a new vehicle subject to conditions. Offers apply to new vehicles ordered or registered between 01.10.09 and 31.12.09, and are subject to status, eligibility, terms and conditions. Extra savings provided by Chevrolet UK Ltd only. Cannot be used with any other offer. Available to private individuals and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other Sales categories are excluded. UK supplied vehicles only. Offer ends 31st December 2009. Excludes Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

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GT, 2.0 Jt's coupe, 2004, blue metallic with grey cloth interior, 38100 miles, £6950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

AUDI

A4, 3.0 s line multitronic cabriolet, 2005, silver metallic with black leather /speed cloth, 72000 miles, £10950, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

A6, Allroad TDI Quattro, ay54kpo, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, colour coded interior, full leather, centre armrest, electric seats, heated seats, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, colour satnav, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, stability control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric mirrors, electric windows, dual climate zones, multi-disc cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, visit our website for details of 50 similAR Cars. metallic grey, 69000 miles, £10990, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

BMW

1 Series, 118d Edition ES, charlie, only 5800 miles, manufacturers pdi, upgraded alloys, rain sensitive windshield, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, comfort pack, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front + rear parking distance control, front fog-lights, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old. *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, sydney blue, £10497, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 120d M SPORT SAT NAV, rfd0wbd, only 58011 miles, manufacturers service history, sat nav, upgraded alloys, cd player, electric folding wing mirrors, xenons, lumbar support, cruise control, voice control bmw assist, bluetooth, loudspeaker system, comfort package, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full motor-sports bodykit, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, motorsport front & rear spoilers, m-tech steering wheel & gear lever, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, black, £13997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 116i Sport 5dr with full leather, it55vmd, remote alarm, remote central locking, full leather, rear headrests, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fSA regulated, japan red, 48000 miles, £9995, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118i ES AUTO, mt06gzo, only 44383 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, sydney blue, £10497, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118d M SPORT, sy06awx, only 43005 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, full child safety window lock, full motor-sports bodykit, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, le mans blue, £13990, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 120d Coupe, ix57jlv, only 18041 miles, manufacturers pdi, left hand drive, half black leather, upgraded alloys, xenon headlamps, cd player, headlamp wash, aerosport spoilers, titan trims, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty, titanium silver, £16997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118d SE SAT NAV, ac08pgv, only 14072 miles, manufacturers service history, sat nav, i drive system, cream leather, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** £15997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118d M SPORT, p55bzd, only 51787 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, privacy glass, loudspeaker system, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, full motor-sports bodykit, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, motorsport front & rear spoilers, m-tech steering wheel & gear lever, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, black, £12997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 120i SE CONV, la08lvo, only 8122 miles, manufacturers pdi, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old. *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, le mans blue, £13990, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 120i SE, yk08mk, only 2717 miles, manufacturers service history, electric folding wing mirrors, sun protection glass, comfort package, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, montego blue, £15997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118d SE, av56jwl, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, titanium silver, 0 miles, £9997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 116i ES, dy06ux, only 62014 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, just look at these low miles, absolutely amazing car at this low price, this price cannot be beaten, over 314 bmws in stock, big value, just off m20/m26/m2, ** sold with a minimum of 6 months mot on all vehicles over 36 months old & comes complete with a comprehensive parts + labour warranty *** we average over 350 bmw's in group stock ** our opening hours are from 8:30am until 6pm mon sat ** sun 10am until 6pm** during office hours please call our sales office on 01732 220555 ** out of hours please call on 07956 158119 between 6pm until 10pm ** Big Motoring World ** big enough to cope, small enough to care**, black, £12997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118d M SPORT, hg06xtd, only 33008 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, full motor-sports bodykit, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, motorsport front & rear spoilers, m-tech steering wheel & gear lever, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, rear spoiler, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-thigh support, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, black, £12990, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118d SE, te56uub, only 19124 miles, manufacturers service history, titan trims, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board compute , black, £12997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 118i SE, mj57bxz, only 32122 miles, manufacturers service history, comfort package, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, multi function , sparkling graphite, £13997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 116i SE, it56omk, only 59946 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, cruise control, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, on board computer, cope, small enough to care**, grey, £9797, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 120d ES, ma06exu, only 53164 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazzle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, full child safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, pas, rear headrests, remote key central locking, sports suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, titanium silver, £11997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

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BMW

1 Series, 116i ES, twi5684, only 18410 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, electric windows, front fog-lights, full hild safety window lock, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, multi airbag system, on board computer, pas, power roof, rear headrests, remote key central locking, third point seat belt, beat this price", black, £13997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 120d M SPORT, se06awh, only 68790 miles, manufacturers service history, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, anti dazle rear screen, anti skid control + traction, bmw business stereo, clear lenses, climate control, cruise control, drivers central armrest, electric windows, electric wing mirrors, front fog-lights, full child safety window lock, full motor-sports bodykit, fully colour coded, high level rear brake light, immobiliser, motorsport front & rear spoilers, m-tech steering wheel & gear lever, multi airbag system, multi function steering wheel, on board computer, pas, rear headrests, rear spoiler, remote key central locking, sports seats with under-high suspension, third point seat belt, beat this price, fantastic price, absolutely fantastic price, find more like this, black, £12997, Wrotham Heath, 01732 220555 (TRADE)

1 Series, 116i ES, mk55ydv1, only 42000 miles, upgraded alloys, cd player, aerosport spoilers, dynamic stability control, runflat tyres, abs, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, alarm, , 01732 220555 (TRADE)

CITROEN

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI 600K First Diesel, 574749256, pas, drivers airbag, service indicator, immobiliser, solid paint, front head restraints, white, 51 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 600 LXD, p56vtx, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, ply-lined, barn doors, electric windows, electric mirrors, white, 30000 miles, £4000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI Refrigerated Chiller / Freezer, aaaaaa, cd player, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, brand new, delivery mileage, grp lined, hubbard fridge standby available if required (optional extra). over 50 fridge vans in stock. BHRV.co.uk, white, 15 miles, £5955, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, fn04zvz, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, air bag, electric windows, electric mirrors, radio cassette, refrigerated display, heated display, hand wash facilities, white, 0 miles, £8995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, Jiffy Hot & Cold Catering Truck, w173knu, large fridge, large oven. hot & cold water. ambient section. white, 77000 miles, £6995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, LX 800 HDI Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, kp56wvu, side load door, cd player, air bag, abs, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, grp lined, hubbard fridge. electric standby available if required (optional extra). white, 18000 miles, £7495, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

BERLINGO, 1.6HDI Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, i5d5ees, satellite navigation, power steering, remote central locking, immobiliser, electric mirrors, electric windows, abs, air bag, bluetooth, cd player, brand new. immediate delivery, grp lined, gah equipment. electric standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 1 miles, £10995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)



BERLINGO, 1.9D Refrigerated Chiller, 3204180, grp lined, hubbard fridge. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 17000 miles, £5685, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

Berlingo, LX 600 Refrigerated Chiller, p51zvz, grp lined. d'va 'discreet filter'. p/x to clear. mot & tax. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 0 miles, £2195, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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05 (55) Sirion 1.0 SE Blue, PAS, ABS Alloys A/C , 4,000 miles **£5995**
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C2, Design 1124cc 3 door, 2005, cd player central locking driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, blue, 30450 miles, £4495, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

C3, Exclusive, gu08kn, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, air conditioning, stereo, electric front windows, trip computer, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, mp3 player, child locks, head restraints, isofix, 16" alloys, height adjustable front seatbelts, digital clock, oil temperature gauge, height adjustable front headrests, centre console with cupholders, cigarette lighter, audible lights on warning, lockable glovebox, pen holder in centre console, multi function display, full size spare wheel, passenger seat height adjuster, upper glovebox, locking fuel filler cap, auto door lock when driving, drivers one touch window with anti-pinch feature, automatic boot locking, digital dashboard display, air recirculation system, aluminium gear knob, driver/passenger armrests, pollen filter, rear parcel shelf, front seatback pockets, audible speed warning programmable, body colour bumper skirts, height adjustable headlamps, maintenance indicator, high level third brake light, black panel night illumination, drawer under drivers seat, oil level indicator, 5 three point inertia reel seatbelts, coolant level warning indicator, split folding rear seat, aluminium effect interior door handles, tilt/height adjustable steering wheel, energy absorbing side impact protection, door pockets on all four doors, aluminium effect front vents, heated rear window with intermittent wash/wipe, automatic activation of hazard warning lights, twin sunvisors and covered mirrors + map holder, 'guide me home' headlamps, steering wheel mounted audio controls, rear counter with white lighting, driver's side windscreens mounted ticket holders, pack lock c3, finkel velour upholstery, front seatbelt pretensioners with force limiters, delay power function for windows, door seat height adjust, tinted windows, rear fog and reversing lamps, variable pas, 16" ceehatch alloy wheels, grey, 2000 miles, £9995, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

C3, SX, yr55hkt, immobiliser, central locking, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, abs, cd player, electric mirrors, radio, red, 14000 miles, £5495, Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

C3, Exclusive, cy08abv, abs, air bag, immobiliser, central locking, remote central locking, air conditioning, stereo, electric front windows, trip computer, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, mp3 player, child locks, head restraints, isofix, alloy wheels, full size spare wheel, passenger seat height adjuster, upper glovebox, auto door lock when driving, driver/passenger armrests, audible speed warning programmable, drawer under drivers seat, 5 three point inertia reel seatbelts, rear fog and reversing lamps, multi function display, variable pas, black panel night illumination, drivers one touch window with anti-pinch feature, split folding rear seat, aluminium effect interior door handles, automatic boot locking, digital dashboard display, coolant level warning indicator, tilt/height adjustable steering wheel, energy absorbing side impact protection, door pockets on all four doors, aluminium effect front vents, heated rear window with intermittent wash/wipe, automatic activation of hazard warning lights, twin sunvisors and covered mirrors + map holder, 'guide me home' headlamps, steering wheel mounted audio controls, rear counter with white lighting, driver's side windscreens mounted ticket holders, pack lock c3, blue, 8000 miles, £9995, Bexleyheath, 01322 524 680 (TRADE)

C4, 1.4i SX 5dr Auto Hatch, gj03ybz, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, radio/cassette, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, full size spare wheel, front head restraints, audio remote control, service indicator, immobiliser, rear headrests, isofix child seat anchor points, front armrest, mauve, 30647 miles, £4995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C3, 1.4i SX 5dr Hatch, gj04gvr, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, trip computer, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, steel wheels, audio remote control, front head restraints, blue, 35210 miles, £4995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C3, 1.1i Cool 5dr Hatch Special Edition, gj57vsa, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, rear headrests, isofix child seat anchor points, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, steel wheels, front head restraints, audio remote control, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, immobiliser, grey, 10603 miles, £6444, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C3, L 5dr, iy06 ahu, power steering, abs, cd player, radio, twin air bags, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, electric front windows, blue, 33400 miles, £4995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

C3 Picasso, gk09wfn, metallic paint, abs, air conditioning, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, cruise control, electric door mirrors, central locking, front head restraints, 3x3 point rear seat belts, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, cloth seat trim, folding rear seats, blue, 1900 miles, £11495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C4, 1.4i 16V SX 5dr Auto Hatch, na56vcd, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, 3x3 point rear seat belts, full size spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, service indicator, audio remote control, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, immobiliser, rear wiper, rear headrests, isofix child seat anchor points, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, silver, 20120 miles, £7995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6i 16V SX 5dr Auto Hatch, na56vcd, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, 3x3 point rear seat belts, full size spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, service indicator, audio remote control, front head restraints, cloth seat trim, immobiliser, rear wiper, rear headrests, isofix child seat anchor points, folding rear seats, body coloured bumpers, grey, 10865 miles, £7495, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C4, 1.6i 16V SX 5dr Hatch, hg56hgy, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, 3x3 point rear seat belts, full size spare wheel, red, 20878 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C4 Grand Picasso, wk08yfr, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, height adjustable drivers seat, rear headrests, traction control, front armrest, folding rear seats, 3x3 point rear seat belts, roof rails, immobiliser, service indicator, cloth seat trim, isofix child seat anchor points, front head restraints, audio remote control, silver, 22539 miles, £13995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C5, 1.6 HDi 16V VTR+ 4dr Diesel Saloon, 704385256, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alarm, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, lumbar support, sports seats, immobiliser, rear armrest, audio remote control, traction control, body coloured bumpers, full size spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, 3x3 point rear seat belts, front head restraints, front armrest, service indicator, folding rear seats, isofix child seat anchor points, blue, 12163 miles, £12995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C5, 2.0i 16V VTR+ 5dr Auto tourer, gj09gfr, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, alarm, radio/cd, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, height adjustable drivers seat, audio remote control 12 miles, £16995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

C6, 2.7 HDi V6 Lignage 4dr Auto Diesel Saloon, 704385256, pas, abs, air conditioning, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, alarm, trip computer, cruise control, side airbags, electric door mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, height adjustable drivers seat, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, reverse parking aid, height adjustable drivers seat, front armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, rear armrest, body coloured bumpers, isofix child seat anchor points, front head restraints, immobiliser, folding rear seats, headlight washers, service indicator, rear headrests, silver, 11900 miles, £14995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

DISPATCH, 2.0HDI Refrigerated Chiller With Standby, iy03ftr, twin sliding doors, dual passenger seat, radio cassette, power steering, immobiliser, fridge, electric standby, grp lined, over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 37000 miles, £6995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

DISPATCH, 2.0HDI JIFFY TRUCK HOT & COLD SNACK, te56okd, dual passenger seat, cd player, air bag, abs, remote central locking, power steering, jiffy salsa hot & cold catering van. large double fridge compartment. large oven. hand wash. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 25000 miles, £14995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

DISPATCH, 815 Enterprise Refrigerated Chiller Freezer, 341380, twin sliding doors, dual passenger seat, cd player, power steering, multi-function steering wheel, remote central locking, immobiliser, hubbard fridge, grp lined. standby available if required. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 35000 miles, £7995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

RELAY, 1100 2.0 HDI Refrigerated Chiller, iy05dxt, grp lined, gah fridge. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 6000 miles, £5995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

RELAY, 35 2.2hdi L3H3 Refrigerated Chiller, iy05dxt, satellite navigation, remote central locking, power steering, air bag, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, cd player, bluetooth, high roof, dual passenger seat, low floor, rear step, side load door, brand new! immediate delivery! grp lined, hubbard equipment. electric standby available if required. choice of specifications frozen, chilled, split compartments. see our special offers page for amazing deals! over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, white, 1 miles, £17595, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

RELAY, 2.0HDI Refrigerated Chiller, iy02jlx, side load door, dual passenger seat, cd player, electric mirrors, electric windows, central locking, power steering, grp lined. thermo king equipment. mot & tax. p/x to clear. over fifty fridge vans in stock. www.BHRV.co.uk, red, 0 miles, £2695, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

RELAY, 33 L2 H2, 3549182, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, ply-lined, side load door, barn doors, dual passenger seat, adjustable steering column, satellite navigation, power steering, abs, air bag, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, white, 33000 miles, £8000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)


2005 05 SAAB 9-3 1.9TID Vector Sport , 4 Doors, Manual, Diesel, 27,010 miles, Metallic Silver, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cruise control, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Sports seats, Front fog lights, Passenger airbag, Reverse parking aid, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Air con, Alarm, PAS, Anti theft system, Central locking, Climate Control, Driver airbag, Multi function steering wheel, Park distance control **£9,295**

2004 SAAB 9-3 1.9TID Linear , 4 Doors, Manual, Diesel, 47,000 miles, Metallic Steel Grey, ABS, Air conditioning, Alarm, Alloy wheels, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Full Service History, Park distance control, Traction control **£8,000**

2005 05 SAAB 9-3 1.8T Linear Sport , 4 Doors, Automatic, Saloon, Petrol, 63,277 miles, Metallic Grey, 2 Owners, Cruise control, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Multi function steering wheel, ABS, Cloth seat trim, Full Electric Pack, Reverse parking aid, Part Service History, Air conditioning, Climate Control, Park distance control **£7,495**

2002 52 Reg SAAB 9-5 2.3HOT Aero , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Petrol, 69,000 miles, Steel Grey, ABS, Alloy wheels, Full Electric Pack, Cruise control, Park distance control, Sports seats, Traction control, Climate control, In Car Entertainment, Warranty, Leather upholstery, Metallic paintwork, Tinted glass. **£5,495**

2006 56 SAAB 9-3 1.9TID Vector Sport , 4 Doors, Manual, Saloon, Diesel, 10,500 miles, Met grey, Heated door mirrors, Radio/CD, Rear headrests, Steering wheel reach adjustment, Cruise control, Front electric windows, Alloy wheels, Immobiliser, Electric door mirrors, Rear electric windows, ABS, Sports seats, Front fog lights, Front head restraints, Remote central locking, Drivers airbag, Anti theft system, Electric mirrors, Alarm, Front armrest, PAS, Air con, Central locking, C/C, Foglights, FSH, Sat Nav, Mobile phone Bluetooth connection, Business Pack, 6 Speed gearbox **£8,495**





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RELAY, 30 L2 H1, bt574ad, remote central locking, adjustable steering column, satellite navigation, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, electric mirrors, electric windows, abs, air bag, cloth upholstery, cd player, side load door, barn doors, dual passenger seat, white, 23000 miles, £8000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

RELAY, 2.2 HDi H1 Van 100ps 30 L1 Diesel, gd08knk, pas, abs, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, passenger airbag, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, central locking, cloth seat trim, audio remote control, front head restraints, white, 100 miles, £10995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

XSARA, Picasso Exclusive 16v, 100314, abs, air bag, immobiliser, alarm, traction control, central locking, remote central locking, air conditioning, cruise control, stereo, trip computer, front fog lamps, automatic electric windows, radio, child locks, head restraints, isofix, 15" alloys, elec heated + adjust door mirrors, full size spare wheel, leather steering wheel, pas, tinted glass, cigar lighter, height adjustable steering wheel, headlight height adjustment, rear courtesy lights, height adjustable front seatbelts, locking fuel filler cap, heated rear window, front/rear reading lights, lights on warning, service interval indicator, digital clock, protective side moldings, air recirculation system, twin reversing lights, twin rear foglights, body colour side rubbing strips, height adjustable driver's seat, boot lamp, fuel cut off safety device, 6 speakers, driver's seat with lumbar adjustment, 2nd row centre seat converts into table, dash mounted gear lever, pollen filter, key left in ignition audible warning, heat reflecting windscreen, centre console storage, three 3 point rear seatbelts, audio remote control in steering wheel, refrigerated glovebox, body colour bumper skirts, maintenance indicator, automatic front wipers, boot net, high level third brake light, retractable door mirrors, halogen headlights, front/rear door stowage bins, front courtesy lights, aircraft type trays in front seat backrests, front seatbelt pretensioners with force limiters, external temperature gauge, one touch open on drivers window, home safe lighting, delay power function for windows, 12v socket in rear of vehicle, coolant temperature gauge, chrome bumper inserts, body coloured number plate surround, upper glovebox, high tensile steel side protection bars, folding and removable rear seats, body coloured bumpers, audible speed warning programmable, 2x storage compartments under floor, removable "modulobox" storage, "black-panel" function/night drive, drawer under drivers seat, 4 anchorage points in boot, body red, 16000 miles, £8495, Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

XSARA, Picasso Exclusive 16v, af56 lw, air conditioning, climate control, power steering, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, front fog lamps, height adjustable seat, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, twin air bags, cd player, radio, trip computer, auto lighting, rain-sensing wipers, grey, 43100 miles, £6495, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

FIAT

500, 1.2 Sport 3dr Hatch, g08fnd, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, front fog lights, radio/cd, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, drivers airbag, space saver spare wheel, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, sports seats, isofix child seat anchor points, punk grey, 21000 miles, £8995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, bg56ypk, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, radio/cd, trip computer, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, white, 23000 miles, £8000, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, lm08vue, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, side airbags, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, cloth seat trim, isofix child seat anchor points, new orleans blue metallic, 26880 miles, £6285, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, lm08vue, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, radio/cd, trip computer, side airbags, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, cloth seat trim, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, full size spare wheel, jungle grey metallic, 3074 miles, £7387, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, ea06xop, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, front head restraints, crossover black metallic, 26950 miles, £6996, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, ra56uso, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, front head restraints, new orleans blue metallic, 20000 miles, £6795, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

GRANDE Punto, mj56wae, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, alloy wheels, trip computer, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel reach adjustment, drivers airbag, folding rear seats, service indicator, full size spare wheel, immobiliser, isofix child seat anchor points, rear armrest, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, cloth seat trim, front head restraints, bolero red metallic, 14000 miles, £6995, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, Mia 3dr, ax03 bwh, power steering, air bag, radio cassette, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, height adjustable seat, rear wash/wipe, black, 50900 miles, £2995, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

PUNTO, 2004, met blue, 50234 miles, £3495, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PUNTO, ELX 16v Speedgear 5dr auto, p813mub, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, stereo, gold, 50000 miles, £2999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

PUNTO, y853hpf, power steering, immobiliser, central locking, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, air bag, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, cd player, electric front windows, blue, 39000 miles, £2699, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

SCUDO, Bonhoffa Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, fm54uyb, bonhoeffer catering van, large oven display, large fridge display, handwash facilities, cost new over £35, 000, two tone metallic, 34000 miles, £11995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

SCUDO, Bonhoffa Hot & Cold Catering Vending Truck, av06aed, cd player, air bag, abs, remote central locking, immobiliser, power steering, parking sensor, large refrigerated display, large oven, 2 x soup urns, handwash facilities, large stock of catering vans, www.BHRV.co.uk, silver, 27000 miles, £12995, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

SEDICI, 1.6 16V Eleganza 5dr Hatch, aj07vxe, pas, abs, remote central locking, front electric windows, rear electric windows, front fog lights, alloy wheels, side airbags, electricdoor mirrors, steering wheel rake adjustment, drivers airbag, climate control, folding rear seats, rear wiper, immobiliser, front head restraints, isofix child seat anchor points, roof rails, 3x3 point rear seat belts, full size spare wheel, height adjustable drivers seat, rear headrests, live blue metallic, 28500 miles, £7985, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

SEICENTO, Mia 3dr, t633mj, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, air bag, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, stereo, blue, 20000 miles, £1499, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

STILO, Active Jtd Ac 5dr, mt05cay, remote central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, twin air bags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric mirrors, electric windows, grey, 38000 miles, £4999, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.8TDCI Titanium 5dr*****SPORT PACK 3*****, ng08thr, 18 alloys, rain sensing wipers, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking.. insurance group:8, grey, 25693 miles, £11995, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.6TDCI Zetec 5dr, ap08nfn, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, adjustable seats, child locks, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, remote locking, side airbags. insurance group:7, grey, 28102 miles, £10500, Sittingbourne, 01795 426693 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 2.0TDCI Titanium 5dr, ef58cuc, climate control air conditioning, dvd touch screen sat nav, privacy glass, rear park assist, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, foglights, front armrest, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, remote locking, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear headrests, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, front head restraints, heated door mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, rear wiper, remote central locking, trip computer, cloth seat trim, full size spare wheel, insurance group:5, please call les bellchambers for further details and offers. blue, 12205 miles, £7995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

C-MAX, 1.6TDCI ZETEC 5DR, wv58zh, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, electric windows, heated screen, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, remote locking, alstair mcween, black, 22820 miles, £11990, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC 5DR [82], gf58hpc, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, passenger airbag, radio/cd, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, heated door mirrors, isofix child seat anchor points, remote central locking, steering wheel rake adjustment, details and offers. black, 7956 miles, £11495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 STYLÉ 3DR, gk57xsr, metallic amethyst, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, metallic paintwork, abs, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear headrests, steel wheels, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, drivers airbag, front electric windows, , 18632 mile, £6995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC BLUE 5DR, gk58vlg, sport pack, tech pack, abs, adjustable seats, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, auto headlights, auto wipers.. insurance group:4, blue, 9883 miles, £3995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)



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FIESTA, 2.0 ST 3DR, en07xps, full leather, rear parking sensors, bluetooth, auto headlights, auto wipers, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, cd multichanger, central locking, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, heated screen, leather seats, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, metallic paintwork, park distance control, power assisted steering, radio, remote locking, spoiler, tinted glass, traction control, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, radio/cd, multichanger, rear headrests, sports seats, 3x3 point rear seat belts, alarm, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, drivers air, black, 16800 miles, £9995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC 3DR [82], Im58mkf, quickclear, abs, folding rear seats, immobiliser, radio/cassette, steel wheels, drivers airbag, front head restraints, pas, cloth seat trim, full size spare wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, passenger airbag, radio/cd, audio remote control, body coloured bumpers, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, heated door mirrors, isofix child seat anchor points, remote central locking, steering wheel rake adjustment, trip computer, insurance group:4, silver, 14399 miles, £10995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 ZETEC 3DR, g158hck, metallic morelo, quickclear, privacy glass, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, passenger airbag, radio/cd, audio remote control, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, heated door mirrors, isofix child seat anchor points, remote central locking, steering wheel rake adjustment, trip computer, insurance group:4, please call les bellchambers for further details and offers. red, 10100 miles, £11495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE], g157rbx, auto wipers, tech pack, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, folding rear seats, immobiliser, radio/cassette, steel wheels, drivers airbag, front head restraints, pas, cloth seat trim, full size spare wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear headrests, 3x3 point rear seat belts, body coloured bumpers, drivers air, black, 16800 miles, £9995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 ZETEC BLUE 3DR, g158hbg, tech pack, power folding door mirrors, sony cd player, quickclear, auto headlights, auto wipers, abs, air conditioning, alloy wheels, 0 miles, £8495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 ZETEC S 3DR, ca58bq, metallic vision, street pack, 17 alloy wheels, privacy glass, side skirts, esp, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, locking wheel nuts, immobiliser, windows, front fog lights, heated door mirrors, isofix child seat anchor points, remote central locking, for further details, blue, 10548 miles, £13495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCI TREND VAN, lv09nrx, panel van, finance available, full dealer facilities, hp-leasing, tax, warrantied mileage, warranty, very low mileage. 2 seater, please call les bellchambers for further details and offers. white, 3750 miles, £8499, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 TDCI ZETEC 5DR, nt58ujv, metallic squeeze, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy 11866 miles, £11995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC 5DR [82], wp58nrv, central locking, child locks, colour coding body, front amrest, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts, lumbar support, immobiliser, metallic paintwork, power assisted steering, radio, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, heated screen, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, insurance group:4, silver, 11000 miles, £11495, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE], g157rfl, abs, quickclear, auto wipers, auto headlights, folding mirrors, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, head restraints, folding rear seats, heated screen, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, metallic paintwork, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd, rear headrests, silver, 18713 miles, £7995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 ZETEC 5DR [CLIMATE], ly07jyf, air conditioning, alloy wheels, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, radio/cd, rear headrests, 3x3 point rear seat belts, drivers airbag, electricdoor mirrors, front electric windows, front fog lights, front head restraints, heated door mirrors, height adjustable drivers seat, pas, rear wiper, remote central locking, solid paint, trip computer,privacy glass, insurance group:5, please contact alstair mcween, red, 18395 miles, £7490, Crayford, 01322 621667 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 ZETEC 3DR [82], g158glv, abs, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, passenger airbag, remote locking, radio/cd, adjustable seats, anti theft system, central locking, child locks, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, colour coding interior, head restraints, heated screen, locking wheel nuts,group:4, blue, 8000 miles, £10995, Gravesend, 01474 537111 (TRADE)



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**CARDY**

COUNTYWIDE publishing group KOS Media staged its inaugural £1 Million Business Challenge Awards this week.

The publisher of this newspaper and the popular midweek Yourlocals series, as well as websites under the www.kentnews.co.uk banner, conceived the challenge early this year.

Managing director Paul Stannard said: "We wanted to encourage businesses and organisations to stand up in the face of the downturn and show that Kent's business community is determined to thrive and not just survive."

"We challenged them to give us a reason to help them reach out to more of their customers and communities with our £1m advertising and marketing prize fund."

More than 200 entries were received from firms and organisations large and small, all looking to impress the judges with their passion, drive and vision. A full report from the

Rising to our challenge

£1 MILLION BUSINESS CHALLENGE



awards and gala dinner at the Tudor Park Hotel, Bearsted, Maidstone, will be carried

next weekend, but the results were:

• Charity Award Winner: Council for the Protection of Rural England, Kent.

Highly Commended: RSPCA Isle of Thanet branch incorporating East Kent Animal Centre, the Aspinall Foundation and the Caldecott Foundation.

• New Business/Product Award Winner: Move 'n' Smooth. Highly Commended: UBLOW, Herne Bay Mobility and Mediterranean Direct.

• Innovation Award Winner: Charity Bank. Highly Commended: Scents of Time, TextQube and Jali.

• Public Sector Award Winner: Fulston Manor School. Highly Commended: Education Sense and Kent Youth Theatre.

• Community Award Winner: Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre. Highly Commended: Theatre Royal, Margate.

• Employer Award Winner: Charity Bank. Highly Commended: D&D Autos, GerrardWhite and Porchlight.

• Leisure and Tourism Award Joint Winners: The Secret Gardens of Sandwich and Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust. Highly Commended: The Bell Hotel and Bedgebury National Pinetum and Forest.

• Retailer Award Winner: Macknade Fine Foods. Highly Commended: Ecorium, Jali and Heading Up The Aisle.

• Service Award Winner: Basepoint. Highly Commended: Housemartins and Chatham Historic Dockyard Trust.

• Training and Staff Development Award Winner: South East Coachworks. Highly Commended: GerrardWhite, Kent Trainers, Unlimited Potential and Porchlight.

Exception that proves the rule

By **ANDY ROGERS**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

DEVASTATING figures showing the UK economy declined for a sixth successive quarter have failed to dampen cautious optimism in Kent.

As we reported last week, private firms and public sector organisations across the county believe the worst is over, and they had been in good company nationally – 35 analysts polled by Reuters ahead of the figures expected a similar positive result.

Heavyweight media and economic observer Andrew Neil was quick to hold his hands up on his BBC blog: "Economic forecasting is always an uncertain business but as mistakes go – this is a big 'un," he wrote, after forecasting that the latest stats would show Britain halting its economic tumble.

And yet, we have gathered further upbeat feedback this week on top of last week's lead story (Nurturing those green shoots) when Kent chairman of the Institute of Directors Frazer Thompson, MD of Ashford's Future Judith Armit and relocation agency Locate in Kent chief executive Paul Wookey all voiced

confidence in the local economy. And the following pages carry positive reports from many local companies, as well as that of the Sevenoaks florist where business is blooming (see separate report below).

A new report also confirms that South East businesses are preparing for growth, although they do not expect a real upturn until late next year or even 2011. They also thumped the Government's handling of the crisis by saying the UK's regulatory and taxation environment is still not business friendly.

The findings come from this year's influential Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales' (ICAEW) enterprise survey, revealing 68 per cent of businesses across Kent and the South East are planning to grow turnover over the next two years, marginally better than the UK average of 66 per cent.

Fay Webster, ICAEW regional director, said: "Despite the serious impact on companies, the resilience of the South East shows through, with the majority planning growth."

Unsurprisingly, 75 per cent of regional companies did admit the downturn has had a negative effect on business, up from 65 per cent when surveyed in 2008, restricting forward planning, reducing revenue and causing staff cuts.

But ICAEW reports their loss of revenue is significantly below the national average and

our region is the least likely to report a reduced ability to finance day-to-day operations (37 against 46 per cent) and less likely to have seen increased costs of long-term borrowing (28 against 35 per cent).

South East businesses had the most positive outlook on the downturn too, with 60 per cent expecting it to impact negatively on their business in 2009, below the UK average of 69.

But 55 per cent of South East companies say the UK regulatory and taxation environment is not helping them, citing employment tax (65 per cent), employment legislation (60) and business tax changes (53) as hindrances.

• **ONE** year on from his buyout and amid a recession, Botanical Florist Group owner Paul Steggle has seen turnover climb by 40 per cent.

He bought the two shops, at Seal, near Sevenoaks, and Darent Valley Hospital, Dartford, after selling his printing company and is the first to admit he'd known little about the flower business: "I saw an opportunity to be involved in the community as well as growing a company using the skills I had acquired along the way," explained Paul, who even makes some of the flower deliveries himself.

"I leave the selection and arranging to my very skilled florists, but I'm involved in all other aspects. It's important to be immersed in the day-to-day running and have an understanding of the process and customer experience."

He wants to expand the company and has bought a new delivery van, reorganised to ensure better quality and longer-lasting blooms from Holland and local growers, and even promotes the company via Twitter.



BOTTOMS UP: Paul Steggle with Botanical manager and chief florist Sue Marks

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Cheers! Here's to 30 years at the top

By **ANDY ROGERS**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

AS THE recession continues to take a toll on businesses across Kent, one of the county's leading PR and marketing agencies says companies need adaptability to survive.

Edwards Harvey is not only celebrating its 30th anniversary this month but, also for the fourth year running, achieving internationally recognised quality management and customer service standards.

And the Maidstone-based agency's MD Pip Clarkson says keeping up with the challenges of a demanding and fast-moving industry has been key to the agency's success.

"It's at times like this, when you're confronted with economic uncertainty, that you face your toughest tests," said Pip, who began her career as a cub reporter in Folkestone and worked across the media before joining Edwards Harvey as a consultant in 2001. She took over the company four years later.

"The world of information sharing has altered dramatically over the last few years. Not so long ago email was the new technology. Now, advances in digital communications and social media have opened up a whole range of distribution channels for PR.

"We've evolved to embrace the rapidly changing face of the media, promoting clients through the most up-to-date communication streams, from viral campaigns and the internet to more traditional methods of PR and marketing."

However, she believes the 'old' skills of making and sustaining good media contacts are still fundamental to PR success: "Many of our people are experienced former journalists so



GOOD HEALTH: The Edwards Harvey team toast their 30th anniversary, with ale from the agency's oldest client – and Britain's oldest brewer – Shepherd Neame

we have the advantage of knowing what makes a good story and what news editors are looking for."

The consultancy was formed in 1979 by two well-known Kent press men, Richard Harvey, who stepped down as chairman in 2005, and Peter Edwards.

Its portfolio now ranges from multinational and blue-chip companies to regional and local businesses and public and private sector organisations and is particularly proud of a 30-year relationship with Faversham-based Shepherd Neame, Britain's oldest brewer.

The agency is regularly listed in PR Week magazine's best-performing 150 consultancies in the UK, and is the only one retained by the National Council for the Training of Journalists to provide courses in PR for the media industry.

In 1987, it conceived the Kent Journalist of the Year Awards and, in partnership with sponsor Shepherd Neame, this has grown to attract a record 120 entries last year.

A highlight of the past 30 years was EH's involvement with the Northern Ireland peace talks, chaired by Tony Blair and Bertie Ahern at Leeds Castle in 2004.

Pip recalled: "As well as handling press enquiries and filming requests from national and regional media, we also acted as the conduit between Downing Street, the Northern Ireland Office and Kent Police."

Agency campaigns have also involved many celebrities including Jeremy Clarkson and James May, chefs Gary Rhodes and Phil Vickery, historian Dr David Starkey, the Royal Ballet's Carl Davis and Alina Cojocaru, Mick Hucknall and newsreader Huw Edwards.

JOBS in aircraft maintenance and repair are being created by a new operation at Kent International Airport (KIA) at Manston.

AvMan Engineering maintains short to medium range jets such as the McDonnell Douglas MD-82 and BAE Systems BAeS 146 and expects to have a 40-strong workforce at the Thanet airport by the end of the year.

Avman Group MD Chris Wilson said: "We intend to build steadily on our already successful business with a keen eye on a secure future based around a local workforce."

He also wants to establish a training school within six months, and added: "We are keen to introduce Airbus maintenance in about four to five years, once the workforce is established and at sufficient levels."

KIA's chief executive Matt Clarke said: "We're delighted that AvMan has chosen to establish a base at Manston to join a number of other ancillary businesses operating at the airport. Their plans to recruit and train young local people will be a welcome boost for the area."

AvMan is also partner in a soon-to-be-launched Romanian charter airline, Island Air, which plans to introduce two MD-82 aircraft in the spring for the European charter market and maintain them at KIA.

WHILE experts query whether we are on the road to economic recovery or not, Warners Solicitors and Vantis plc are posing the question: 'Will your business be fit to make the most of the upturn when it does arrive?'

This key issue is addressed in Tunbridge Wells on Tuesday, November 17, when the two companies hold a free seminar from 5-6.30pm at Salomons, looking at the essential structural, tax and legal issues companies may need to address to benefit from the recession's end.

The seminar's targets are company owners, managers, shareholders or members of limited liability partnerships.

Speakers will include Vantis corporate finance director Nigel Kimber; Vantis client tax partner Terry Baldwin; Warners partner, corporate, Jonathan Roberts; and Warners partner, corporate and notary, Patrick Smith.

COMPANY bosses looking to sell up may find themselves paying more capital gains tax (CGT) than expected, Kent accountancy firm Horwath Clark Whitehill has warned.

The potential trap has been created by a decade of Government tax changes, such as those concerning entrepreneurs' relief, said company tax partner Simon Warne.

"When selling a business, an owner is typically entitled to claim entrepreneurs' relief on the first £1 million of any eligible gains," he said. "This effectively reduces the CGT rate for the qualifying sum to 10 per cent, rather than the standard 18 per cent and allows the owner to keep up to an extra £80,000. The ownership conditions are quite demanding, however, and exclude anyone who has transferred all their shares into an 'interest in possession' trust."

ASHFORD'S Town Centre Partnership is holding an open meeting on Wednesday.


The partnership, created in 1997, is hosting the meeting at the George Hotel, 68 High Street, from 5.45pm.

Members attending will include Ashford council leader Cllr Paul Clokie OBE, the council's new chief executive John Bunnett, and Ashford's Future MD Judith Armitt.

If you would like to attend, register by Monday by calling 01233 664410 or email: info@ashfordtcp.co.uk

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Smith & Western pulls bank job in spa town

INDEPENDENT restaurant chain Smith & Western has expanded in Tunbridge Wells with the help of a £1.2 million finance package from Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS).

The family-owned company was founded in 1995 and had outlets in Horsham, Boxhill, Chichester and Lingfield, before taking over the 1866-vintage train station in the Kent spa town's former West Station in Linden Park Road.

Extensive refurbishment of the Grade-II listed building has included restoring the clock tower. The 200-seat restaurant offers American Old West-style cuisine and has 10 American themed bedrooms to cater for tourist and corporate demands.



PAUL LITTLE: RBS relationship manager for Smith & Western

• RBS and NatWest have launched a telephone and email Business Hotline for businesses finding existing lending opportunities curtailed by the current climate.

Regional spokesman Peter Ibbetson said the service was innovative and open to non-customers of the banks: "Sometimes a fresh pair of eyes looking at a case from a different perspective can produce an alternative solution."

"We are currently approving 85 per cent of loan applications and we're always looking to improve on that figure."

More information is available at: businesshotline@rbs.co.uk.

HOT METAL: Prince Andrew during his tour of the Caterham Cars factory in Dartford



Prince delighted by icon's export boost

CATERHAM Cars welcomed Prince Andrew to its Dartford factory after achieving a major boost to the sports car company's export potential, *writes Motoring Editor Steve Loader.*

The Duke of York was welcomed in his role as the UK's Special Representative for International Trade and Investment, after Caterham gained pan-European type approval for its Seven sports car, opening up expansion of an already strong export market for the Kent-built cars. The Caterham Seven is regarded as a sports car icon, being descended from an original 1950s design by innovative Lotus designer and founder Colin Chapman.

Caterham later acquired the rights to build the Seven and has developed its powers as an ultra-light open car with supercar performance for both road and track.

Underlining the car's potential, Caterham is one of only three non-Japanese manufacturers to exhibit at this year's Tokyo Motor Show. The Duke's role includes creating positive business conditions for British companies

investing abroad, helping UK firms export to emerging and established markets and promoting the UK to foreign investors.

During his Dartford visit, he spoke to staff and discussed business conditions for low-volume manufacturers with Caterham chairman Tim Ingram Hill, who said: "We were delighted to welcome His Royal Highness. In a difficult time for manufacturing we have ridden the storm extremely well, with a positive order book until April."

The Duke said: "I was delighted to visit Caterham and to see the production of their iconic sports car."

"I was pleased too to hear about their business strategy that is delivering

impressive export growth and contributing to the success of the company."

• The Superlight R500, Caterham's ultimate model, will star at the Top Gear Live show within the MPH Prestige and Performance Motor Show in Earls Court, London (November 5-8), before continuing on the Top Gear Live World Tour that takes in Birmingham, Dublin, Sydney and Auckland. The Kent-built sportster and 'tame' racing driver the Stig embarrassed many supercars with a time of 1m 17.9s around the Top Gear test track last autumn.



ParaRail promotes new construction division

FAST-growing Kent building services company ParaRail has created a construction division alongside its rail contracting business.

The new ParaConstruction arm will be headed by two well-known figures in the Kent contracting industry: Albert Walton, founder and long-standing chairman of the Ashford Construction Focus Group, who joins as general manager; working alongside new commercial manager Peter Herrington.

Both were part of the management buyout team at the long-established Ashford-based WG Sandells & Partners construction business in 1999, subsequently relaunching as Parcon Construction. Joining Albert and Peter at ParaConstruction are estimator Michael Wood and three site managers who worked with them at Parcon. All will be based at ParaRail's offices at Ruckinge, near Ashford.

ParaRail MD Lee Ruston said: "This is a golden opportunity for us to capitalise on the growth already taking place in the general construction and contracting side of our business."

"Albert and Peter are well known in the industry, having been involved in a range of new build, refurbishment and design-and-build contracts. Their knowledge and experience will be vital as we look to expand this side of our business to complement the explosive growth we have seen in our rail contracting division."

"It would be very easy for us to be thought of as being almost exclusively rail contractors. But there is very little construction work our workforce can't handle."

ParaRail grew from the re-organisation of British Rail in 1996. The company is carrying out a £16.2 million three-year programme of remedial works at 185 stations and 12 depots throughout Kent and south-east London.

Dozens of jobs have been created for mechanical and electrical engineers, painters, carpenters and bricklayers and, with more than 200 full-time employees and sub-contractors, ParaRail is now one of the largest private sector employers in the Ashford area.



EXPERIENCE: Lee Ruston, flanked by Albert Walton (left) and Peter Herrington



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Arriva invests in county town bus services

BUS operator Arriva has taken delivery of another eight brand-new, fully-accessible and environmentally-friendly buses for use on local routes in Maidstone.

The new vehicles – representing a £981,000 investment – will boost the 85 service between Senacre Wood, Shepway, Foster Clark estate and the town centre; and the 82 to Park Wood. The buses feature an innovative EcoManager system, encouraging drivers to drive as fuel-efficiently as possible, plus lower emissions and a pioneering gearbox claimed to produce a smoother ride. In addition, they are

among the first of Arriva's UK fleet to feature the operator's new interior design, while driver and passenger security is boosted by digital CCTV.

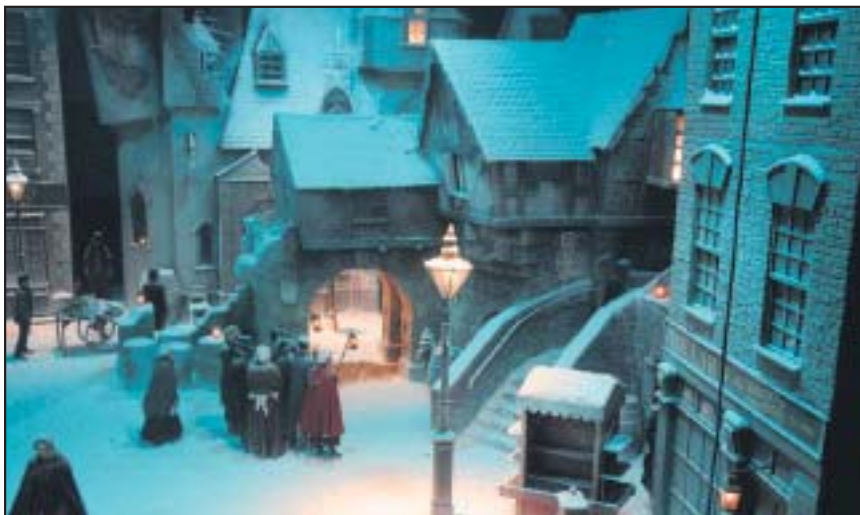
Marketing manager Richard Lewis said: "This represents another substantial investment and follows investments totalling £2.2 million towards the end of 2008 in new buses for services running into and within the Maidstone area."

The buses will enter service after an official ceremony this weekend at Lockmeadow by the Mayor of Maidstone, Cllr Peter Parvin.

No humbug at Dickens World this Christmas

MEDWAYS Dickens World is rejecting any recession humbug with a recreation of one of Victorian literary giant Charles Dickens' most famous works, *A Christmas Carol*.

Opening on Saturday, November 14, *A Christmas Carol See It - Live It* will show visitors a real reindeer at the entrance to the Dockside shopping mall in Chatham before following Father Christmas inside for optional vin chaud and mince pies, listening to carol singers while snow falls, and watching *A Christmas Carol* performed live in the snow-covered Dickens World courtyard, pictured right.



Britons still very much in love with their cars

IF TOP Gear's popularity and the success of the Government's Scrappage initiative weren't proof enough, Britain's love affair with the car is far from over despite the recession, *writes Andy Rogers*.

A new Europe-wide study by car hire giant Europcar shows that 73 per cent of Brits love having their own car, compared with 60 per cent across the Continent.

But we are more conscious of the cost of car ownership; even though it's lower here, averaging £106 a month against £126 across Europe based on insurance, maintenance/repair, car loan and parking costs.

Some 61 per cent of British owners have changed their driving habits to cut costs (per cent in brackets) by: (65) driving less and switching to other transport or walking for short journeys; (62) driving to conserve fuel; (33) car sharing. Most Brits (95) would walk more if they gave up their cars.

But when it comes to two wheels, we are far less keen than across the Channel. Half would consider cycling, compared with two thirds of continental Europeans and only 20 per cent would consider a motorbike or scooters, compared with over a third in the rest of Europe.

Europcar's study also identified these driver types:

- No choice dependants – primarily in rural areas with no alternative transport options. They are sensitive to cost though and have changed their driving habits.
- Detached urbanites – do not like cars in general and are most likely to support a city cen-



CAR CULTURE: Still living the motoring dream – or doomed by a new realism?

tre ban on cars. Most would consider selling the car and using public transport.

- Strategic nomads – considering ditching their car for cost and environmental reasons. They use various alternatives: public transport, walking, car hire and car sharing.
- Car lovers – attached to their car and use it for most journeys, but are open to car hire for practicality and the chance to try a new car.
- Exclusive owners – wedded to their car. They care about environmental issues at all, it is not in the context of their car.

Europcar marketing director Catriona

Lougher said: "There's no doubt that with the current transport infrastructure in the UK combined with a deeply ingrained mindset towards car ownership, parting the British motorist from their motor is no mean feat."

"That said, we are seeing the emergence of new groups of motorists – the detached urbanites and strategic nomads who appear more open to a life without car ownership."

"These along with households who have downsized their cars or gone from two cars to one in the household to cut costs are turning to car hire to give them the mobility they need, just for the time they need it."

- MANY company car drivers may be driving illegally and risking serious injury plus licence points and a possible driving ban.

A survey by TyreSafe found 25 per cent of them never checked the tyre tread depth and a further 41 per cent had not checked within the past six months.

TyreSafe, a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to raising awareness of the danger from defective and worn tyres, said companies and employees have responsibility for tyre safety on fleet vehicles and it has created a 'lifesaver in your pocket' initiative to help.

This suggests simple monthly checks using a 20p coin. If the outer band of the coin is visible when inserted into the main grooves of the tyre, then the tyre may not have sufficient depth.

Current UK law states that tread on car tyres must be a minimum of 1.6mm across the central three quarters of the tread, around its entire circumference. Drivers found in breach of this law face a fine of up to £2,500 and three penalty points for each illegal tyre.

WILLMOTT Dixon's Dartford office has been credited with ensuring the construction and investment group came first in this month's Sunday Times Top Track 250 companies league table.

Since opening in January, 2008, the Dartford office surpassed its turnover target in 2008 of £55 million by achieving £70m and is on course for £100m in 2009.

This has been boosted by projects in the county and the South East including a new house block at HMP Swaleside on the Isle of Sheppey, education contracts at Northfleet School for Girls, Community College in Whitstable and sites in Bexley and east London. It also created more than 70 new jobs in 2009.

The annual Sunday Times Top Track 250 league table ranks Britain's mid-size privately owned firms by sales in their latest available audited accounts.

Willmott Dixon Group beat some of the UK's most recognised brands to claim the top spot with a leap in turnover from £380.4m in 2007 to £592.4m in 2008.

Those figures exclude turnover from social housing specialist Inspace, re-acquired by Willmott Dixon in 2008, enabling the enlarged group to predict a turnover of £900m in 2009.

Earlier this year, the group was also the highest placed contractor in the Sunday Times Best Companies Green List, achieving an overall position of third.

Chief executive Rick Willmott said: "It's down to the strong growth of new offices like Dartford that helped us achieve this."

With headquarters in Letchworth Garden City, the group employs nearly 3,000 people across the UK.

LEADING Kent business-support organisations and the University of Greenwich at Medway are joining forces to help companies and entrepreneurs take advantage of new commercial, research and development windows.

The alliance has identified the 2012 Olympics in London as a particularly attractive opportunity.

As the Business Innovation Group or BIG, the university, Business Link in Kent and the Thames Gateway and Kent Invicta chambers of commerce are identifying a programme of meetings and events. See www.big-kent.org.uk for more information.

University director of research and enterprise for the School of Engineering, Dr Steve Woodhead, said: "We will be offering advice on how to bid and pitch for contracts, as well as being kept informed of opportunities as they become available."

"We are aiming to bring people with common interests together so they can discuss and share the business issues they are facing and, where possible, come together to develop solutions."

BUSINESS people across the county have received a call to breakfast at the University of Kent's Medway campus on Wednesday, November 25.

The 7.30-9.30am networking session, Strengthen Your Business, is free and includes a series of presentations highlighting how companies can work with the university and tap into its commercial knowledge and resources.

These will be underpinned by testimonials from companies engaged with the university in commercial ventures.

The event is in association with Thames Gateway Chamber of Commerce.

University placement officer James Corbin said: "We're convinced firms which work with the university can gain a competitive edge. Previous events have sown the seeds for strong working relationships with Kent businesses and we will be delighted to welcome along any organisation, large or small, to find out more."

To secure a place, call 01227 827376 or email enterprise@kent.ac.uk

A stone's throw from the future

KENT-based architectural practice Clague has created a dramatic detached home, Sea House, for a conservation area at Littlestone-on-Sea, near New Romney.

The five-bedroom contemporary design uses natural materials, notably red cedar cladding and natural slate 'floating roofs', and had to fit a location designated for low-density development.

Sea House sits just yards from the beach, with uninterrupted views across the bay to Hythe, Sandgate and the white cliffs of Dover. Clague has offices in Kent at Canterbury, Ashford and Kings Hill.



BEACH LIFE: Sea House at Littlestone

Measuring up after 1,000th link review

BUSINESS Link in Kent is celebrating helping its 1,000th customer through its Business Review service, launched just over a year ago.

Fitzgerald Conservation, a specialist paper preservation and restoration company in Sevenoaks, underwent the review at one of Business Link's regular Kent-wide Boost Your Sales and Profits workshops.

Julie Fitzgerald founded the business eight years ago and has worked with museums, institutions and individual clients all over the world, painstakingly restoring precious documents and paintings damaged by light, infestation, damp or even sticky tape.

But as she works as a sole trader, she admitted: "You tend to find yourself so busy with the everyday business of getting on with the job that you don't get the chance to look at the bigger picture."

"This was the second Business Link workshop I had attended and I find the trained advisers really help me to re-focus on what I am doing and look at my business in a fresh light."

"Fitzgerald Conservation has a website which is functional but perhaps a bit dated, so my Business Link adviser offered to put me in touch with a local website designer. During the Business Review it was also suggested I use the European Enterprise Network to make contact with European museums and archives."

Fitzgerald Conservation is now planning to make use of Business Link's skills support service and the supplier matching service. Julie will also look at attending local business events and networking, as well as website search engine optimisation techniques.

Tony Buddin, head of marketing at Business Link, said: "The Business Reviews have been a great success. They offer small businesses an impartial and professional assessment of how they are faring and how they could grow. We would like to congratulate Fitzgerald Conservation on being our 1,000th customer and look forward to helping many more small businesses in Kent."

The workshops aim to help small businesses increase sales and profits and create a financial plan. Attendance is free for Kent-based self-employed and owner managers with no more than two full-time employees. For more information, call Business Link on 0845 600 9006.



FRESH LIGHT: Julie Fitzgerald of Fitzgerald Conservation renewed her focus after becoming Business Review service's 1,000th client

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until
OD: Other details

FIXED

WOOLWICH

RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 31/01/2012
OD: £1,329

MORTGAGE BOX ITL

RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/03/2011
OD: £1,184

PRINCIPALITY

RT: FIXED **R%:** 4.99% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/12/2012
OD: £1,339

ABBEY

RT: FIXED **R%:** 3.99% **L:** 70% **U:** 02/01/2012
OD: £1,030

OTHER

ABBEY

RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS
OD: £1,030

DARLINGTON

RT: DISCOUNTED VARIABLE **R%:** 3.15% **L:** 70%
U: 30/11/2011 **OD:** £1,320

NORTHERN ROCK

RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.75% **L:** 70% **U:** 01/01/2012
OD: £1,030

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER

RT: TRACKER **R%:** 2.79% **L:** 70% **U:** 3 YEARS
OD: £1,305

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MALE AGED 60

CANADA LIFE	£547
LEGAL & GENERAL	£540
PRUDENTIAL	£528
AEGON SE	£525
STANDARD LIFE	£518

FEMALE AGED 60

CANADA LIFE	£534
AVIVA	£531
LEGAL & GENERAL	£522
PRUDENTIAL	£516
STANDARD LIFE	£509

MALE AGED 65

CANADA LIFE	£604
PRUDENTIAL	£591
LEGAL & GENERAL	£583
STANDARD LIFE	£580
AVIVA	£579

FEMALE AGED 65

CANADA LIFE	£586
PRUDENTIAL	£573
LEGAL & GENERAL	£569
STANDARD LIFE	£565
AEGON SE	£558

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Safety first on Bonfire Night

BUSINESS insurance specialist Premierline Direct has advised companies what they must do for protection and safety at their Bonfire Night party:

- Tell your insurance company as it will have terms and conditions you must comply with to ensure your business is covered for such an event.

- Consider whether the site is suitable and large enough for your display. The bonfire must be roped off at least 10 metres away from spectators. Buildings, roads, railways, overhead cables and the fireworks display area must be at least 25 metres away.

- Stewards. There must be at least one for every 100 spectators with duties including car park attendance, monitoring the bonfire area, keeping spectators behind barriers and clearing up. Recruit competent over-18s and equip them with fluorescent jackets.

- All fireworks must be handled by a responsible adult and used and stored in line with the manufacturer's instructions.

- There must be a qualified first aider on site who can also call for emergency assistance, so make sure they carry a mobile phone.

- The bonfire should be extinguished with water at the end of the event and not left unattended until those in charge of safety are certain it is out.

Shared space adds to awards



IN THE SQUARE: Cllr Nick Chard, left, with Andrew Panter and Worshipful Company of Paviers liveryman Mike Cottell

ONE of the construction industry's oldest professional bodies has joined the growing list of admirers of the shared space in Ashford's revitalised shopping centre.

The Worshipful Company of Paviers, dating back to the 15th century and bringing together professionals involved with building roads and pavements, visited the town to hand over its 2009 award for excellence.

Master of the Worshipful Company, Andrew Panter, presented the plaque and certificates to Kent County Council, contractor Jackson Civils and designer Whitelaw Turkington at the scheme's Elwick Square centrepiece.

KCC cabinet member for highways, Cllr Nick Chard, said: "Shared space is putting Ashford on the map. The scheme is getting the recognition it deserves for innovation. The new road layout is starting to make Ashford far more pedestrian-friendly and accessible. There's still work to be done on the town's road network. Shared space has got us off to a good start."

Shared space had already won four awards for regeneration, innovation, street design and for best 'public realm'.



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Timeline

Kent on Sunday sport takes a look back at the county's sporting action of yesteryear



100 YEARS AGO: The entire football community in Kent was in mourning after the shocking death of a well-known Ashford referee, EK Keene.

Mr Keene had been officiating at a game between Hastings and Woolwich Arsenal reserves before boarding the 18.10 train from Hastings station to his home town.

A ticket collector at Hastings reported Mr Keene, known as 'Daddy' to many players, was jovial and in good spirits on the platform, but when the train arrived at Rye, a porter noticed some unattended luggage.

Unable to find the owner he alerted the authorities and Mr Keene's body was found in the Ore Tunnel.

An inquest found that he had been killed instantly by a head injury. There were no grounds to suspect suicide and the most likely cause of death was Mr Keene leaning out of the window and forgetting the proximity of the tunnel.



50 YEARS AGO: Confusion reigned on the rugby field, not for the last time, after Maidstone RFC took on and comfortably defeated a team of touring Australians and New Zealanders at The Mote.

Formed by expats living in London, the 'Down Unders' ambition was to form a team capable of beating the Springboks – whether this meant the national team or a group of exiles wasn't clear, but the team certainly didn't lack enthusiasm.

Unfortunately, as their captain John Austin admitted, they were baffled by the British interpretation of the rules, specifically the knock on and the tap penalty.

Kent County Cricket Club announced they would play three matches at Blackheath in 1960 because of high attendances at Rectory Field, with Folkestone losing out.



FINAL BOW: Peter Taylor said he was doing Maidstone a favour by leaving



25 YEARS AGO: Peter Taylor walked out on Maidstone United for the final time, saying he was "doing the club a favour" by leaving. Taylor warned the club needed 11 battlers on the pitch and said several of his team-mates had failed to touch the heights of the previous season's Alliance Premier League winning campaign.

Tony Cascarino excited his growing army of suitors by bagging two goals in a 4-1 win over Reading and eclipsing striking rival Trevor Senior in the process.

Terry Cochrane and Mark Weatherly also hit the target for Gillingham, but Cascarino's display had Royals manager Ian Branfoot purring: "It's the first time we've come across anybody like him this season and we had nobody at the back capable of containing him. He has remarkable close control for a player of that height. He really is a fine prospect."

Touch of Gaelic flair

Clubs hope scheme to bring French rugby talent to county will add joie de vivre to the English game



By **STEVE TERTVET**

KENT rugby fans could soon be watching some of France's finest new talent playing at clubs around the county as part of a scheme to educate and integrate youngsters from across the Channel into life and rugby in England.

Coaches have already set the wheels in motion, with one Kent-based player heading the other way – living, studying and playing his rugby at a top-flight French outfit, training alongside internationals and benefiting from professional fitness and conditioning work.

Blindside flanker Mark Davey, having just returned from Blackheath's Argentina tour, moved from Blackheath to Union Sportive des Arlequins Perpignan (USAP) at the start of the current season.

Tough

That came after Thanet Wanderers head coach Darryl Vas had put Blackheath director of youth development, Steve Pope, in touch with Bruno Bolland, director of USAP's Center de Formation.

"Any players that go out there need to be better than those they've got already," Vas told Kent on Sunday. "They need to be good players but also mentally tough – French rugby is a different kettle of fish to what they'll be used to. Some of the players over here are good athletes at 16 or 17, but they'll start crying if they get punched in the face."

Vas, who spent part of his playing career in France with Sporting Club Tulliste and Grenoble, had previously acted as translator in the deals which saw Thierry Devergie and Fabrice Landreau join Bristol.

He will act as go-between in any player moves from France to England, with youngsters joining his Wanderers side for the first part of the season before potentially being



scouted by the likes of National League sides Blackheath or Canterbury.

Any French arrivals to Thanet would split their time between playing rugby and doing a day's work for each of 15 sponsors, who would all put in £100 per month to fund their living costs.

"We'd get the benefit of them playing for us, and scouts would come and look at them during that time," said Vas. "They'd also have free English lessons and we'd give them a bit of structure to their life. They would have free use of the gym, the café, any of the places owned by our sponsors. If they integrate and like it, hopefully they'll tell their mates – it's a symbiotic relationship."

Vas found placements in France for 13 English players during his career with Blackheath and Rosslyn Park, but Davey's move to USAP is the first he has co-ordinated since moving to Broadstairs and taking the head coach's job at Thanet.



FRENCH LESSONS: French players are joining clubs in Kent, while Mark Davey (above) and (left in white) is now playing the game on the other side of the Channel

Having coached Davey at Blackheath, Pope was sorry to lose one of his better players, but believes the move overseas can only help the 18-year-old.

He said: "Mark's really got into shape in the few months he's been out there. Blackheath is basically a semi-professional club, so we only get to spend a limited time with the players, but the fitness and conditioning in France is full-time and very serious."

Davey will study the Baccalaureate – a French education programme – during his year-long stay at USAP and with the French academies running up to the age of 23, he has the option to remain beyond this season. Pope is aware Davey's performances on French soil may prove to be the key to any future player movements.

"It depends how well Mark does over there as to whether we get French players coming back the other way," he said. "If Perpignan know we can provide them with decent players, they're more likely to reciprocate."

House puts brakes on move to big team

KRISTIAN House has ended speculation about his future by signing a new contract with Rapha Condor after turning down offers from teams in Europe.

The 30-year-old took the biggest title of his career to date in June by winning the National Road Race Championship, seeing off a host of world-class riders including the Tour de France duo, Mark Cavendish and Bradley Wiggins.

House, who grew up in Canterbury, had been looking to move to a bigger team if possible, but told Kent on Sunday he was happy to stay on.

He said: "As far as contracts go, I had a couple offers in the last few weeks, some of them from European teams, but I've decided to stay with Rapha Condor."

House joined the team, which spends most of the season competing in the UK, last year

after spending a season in North America riding for Navigators.

Simon Mottram, founder of the Rapha clothing brand, which own half the team, was delighted with the decision.

"Kristian's 2009 season has been fantastic and we're delighted that he will be staying with Rapha Condor for 2010," he said. "Apart from being an incredibly talented cyclist and winning the National Road Race Championship, he's the perfect ambassador for both Rapha and Condor. It will be a pleasure having him riding for us next year."

House's season came to an end last weekend with a 17th place finish in the epic Melbourne to Warrnambool Classic. The 30-year-old was the first overseas rider to finish the 261-kilometre race in Australia, coming in with the first chase group nearly seven minutes behind winner Joel Pearson.



STAYING PUT: National Road Race champion Kristian House re-signed for Rapha Condor

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'My next challenge is to retain titles we won'

Skipper of the all-conquering England ladies side explains why she's not ready to hang her pads up



Inside view
with **CHARLOTTE EDWARDS**

AFTER the success we have had as a side over the course of the last year, the question I'm asked most is, what is there left to achieve?

There's no getting away from the fact that this year has been a sensational one after winning the ICC World Cup, the ICC World Twenty20 and retaining the Ashes, but in sport you are only as good as your last game and for me, the challenge of retaining all of those titles is what spurs me on.

In a sense we have got to forget about what happened this year and concentrate on the job ahead, but what we will take into our game from now on is the confidence that winning those tournaments brings.

As a team we have worked really hard to get where we are in this sport and that's not something I want to give up.

My first 10 years of playing for England were pretty unsuccessful, so I want this winning feeling to last and ensure we are the best team for years to come.

We left for the West Indies yesterday and when I found out we had the opportunity of going there, I jumped at the chance as both the team and I have never toured there.

We are taking a different side to the Caribbean, as both Claire Taylor and Sarah Taylor are given a well-earned rest, so there are a few new faces who will be on tour for the three One-Day Internationals and three Twenty20 matches against the hosts.

One of those is my Kent team-mate, Tamsin Beaumont. At just 18, she is one of the younger members of the side, but certainly isn't backward in coming forward and has bags of confidence.



TALENT: Charlotte Edwards says the West Indies tour is a great opportunity for Tamsin Beaumont (inset left) and Kent team-mate Lydia Greenway (right) to show what they can do

On the county circuit she has been known for a number of years as a youngster who has a lot of potential and everyone knew she would progress to the England side at some stage.

To be honest, it's come a lot quicker than both of us thought, but having seen her wicket-keeping and her batting this year, her all-round game has really gone up a notch.

This tour of the West Indies represents a real chance for some of the up and coming young players to stake a claim for selection in the England side for next year's World Twenty20, which coincidentally, is in the Caribbean, starting in April.

For the likes of my other Kent team-mate, Lydia Greenway, this tour is a real chance to show what she can do and I think it's going to be a massive year for her.

Towards the end of the season we were able to see what a great player she can be and I think these games against the West Indies

will give her a chance to bat up the order and hopefully we will see the best of her.

For her, I think it is just a case of scoring runs on the big stage and that will give her the confidence she needs to kick on. Some players take longer than others to adapt, but she is really maturing as a player.

What this tour, and the squad we are taking for it, highlights, is the real strength in depth we have in the England women's team.

The younger players are now pushing the likes of myself and Claire Taylor for a place and that really keeps us on our toes, which is healthy for the state of the women's game.

It's going to be a really key winter for all of the young players to see what they can do when the pressure's on and I'm really looking forward to it.

• **Charlotte Edwards, the Kent and England women's cricket captain, is one of Kent on Sunday's regular sports columnists.**



IN POLE: British Superbikes champion Leon Camier looks favourite for an Aprilia seat

Duo in duel for superbike seat

SUPERBIKE duo Leon Camier and Shane Byrne are vying for the final seat in the Aprilia World Superbike team for next season, **writes Tom Howard.**

The Kent riders are both without deals for the 2010 season and are hoping to be on the World Superbike grid next year.

With only one works team ride available at Aprilia, Sheppey rider Byrne and Camier, from Ashford, are both in line for the seat.

Byrne, who completed his first season in the World Championship this year, believes he is in a good position after two fourth place finishes – riding for Sterilgarda Ducati – in the final round in Portugal last weekend.

The 33-year-old finished his debut season in eighth position in the rider standings.

He told Kent on Sunday: "It's been a long, tough year on a privateer bike and if I can get a decent ride next season I would like to stay in the World Championship. There are rumours flying around and I've been linked with Aprilia as they are yet to name their 2010 line-up."

"I am the only rider in the top 10 of the final championship standings not to have a deal and I am not the oldest rider in the paddock."

"I think I have done enough to impress this season by leading races in Italy and Portugal and I have secured a podium finish. We will have to wait and see how that goes."

However, it appears Camier is in pole position for the Aprilia seat after a successful trial with the team in the final two rounds of the season. After retirements at the penultimate meeting in France, the new British Superbike champion netted top-10 finishes in both races in Portugal.

This week the Aprilia team have retained his services to compete in an official test at Portugal's Portimao circuit.



CONFIDENT: Shane Byrne finished eighth in last season's World Superbike standings

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HARD LESSON: Claire Aitken struggled in her first season on the Ladies European Tour

Top three finish or back to school for Tour rookie

AS A disappointing debut season comes to an end, Claire Aitken is preparing for a return to Qualifying School for the chance to play on the Ladies European Tour in 2010.

The 23-year-old is playing her final Tour event of the season this weekend at the Suzhou Taihu Ladies Open in Shanghai.

A top-three finish in China should be enough to guarantee the Gravesend golfer's card for next season, but after making the cut in just two events all year, the reality is Aitken will be returning to Q-School next month.

She said: "I've struggled with my game this year, it's not been easy."

"At a couple of events I've had bad bounces and missed out, but other than that I've just not played well enough. It all adds to the pressure I've put on myself. I always try to look at the positives but with only making two cuts, there's not a lot to look at."

Aitken's slump in form has come at the worst possible time after ending a promising amateur career and earning a card at Q-School in January.

Despite the lack of results, the Mid Kent golfer believes she has gained from the experience and will go back a better golfer because of it.

She said: "I have enjoyed playing on tour. I've just found it frustrating because I played really well to get my card."

"I did [Q-School] before. I like the course as well, so hopefully I can come through again."

County still in the hunt for a Kolpak catch

Kent chiefs undeterred by new UK immigration laws

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT chairman George Kennedy insists the club won't be put off signing Kolpak players despite new Home Office laws making it harder to sign players from overseas.

Rules released this week will see the number of Kolpak cricketers employed in county cricket plummet, as only players that have held a work permit for four years or more can continue plying their trade as an EU citizen.

One other term of the agreement that would allow a Kolpak player – traditionally from South Africa or the West Indies – to play county cricket, is if they have played a



WHAT NEXT? Ryan McLaren (above) has already waved farewell to Kent and (top) fellow South African Justin Kemp's future is still to be decided **Picture: ADY KERRY**

Test match in the last two years, or five Tests in the last five.

The new regulations have already accounted for Kent's Ryan McLaren. The South African, who left at the end of the season, has yet to play internationally, although he has been called up to play for his country since ending his Kolpak agreement.

Ineligible

The county will keep hold of star batsman Martin van Jaarsveld, courtesy of the fact he has been at St Lawrence for four years, but the club are yet to decide what to do with fellow South African Justin Kemp.

The 32-year-old, whose contract has now expired, played his last Test in 2005, making him ineligible to return as a Kolpak. Kent may yet consider him as an overseas player, but Kennedy told this newspaper the club will be taking their time.

He said: "We are still talking to Justin about his position for next season, but we

have lots of time and won't be rushing into anything."

While it looks increasingly difficult to bring a foreign cricketer over to play county cricket, particularly as the England and Wales Cricket Board are now financially rewarding counties that field young English players, Kent will not be put off looking abroad in a bid to find the right player.

"I have very mixed feelings about this," Kennedy said. "My priority is to get Kent the best team, but I also understand our commitment to England."

"We have to remember that the ECB fund English cricket and we get a huge sum of money from them, so it's important we don't bite the hand that feeds us. But I remain convinced that we should be able to put out the best team we can, so no, I wouldn't rule out Kolpaks."

The chairman also revealed the club were in negotiations with at least two players, but remained tight lipped about their identities.

Development won't disrupt play

A SCHEDULE of when work will begin on the £8.2 million redevelopment of Kent's St Lawrence Ground (pictured) is to be made public by the end of the month.

The club are still not in a position to name their building partner for the development, but hope to be able to do so in the next few weeks, with work expected to start first on the 130-bed hotel.

County chairman George Kennedy said he hoped work would begin soon, and the county haven't ruled out playing more games away from 'HQ' next summer as the redevelopment takes shape.



He said: "There will be a fair amount of cricket next summer at St Lawrence, but disruption will not really be felt until the end of the season."

"We will be continuing with the Tunbridge Wells week and the fixture list has just come out so we are having a look at that right now."

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BENN Barham says he won't have any sleepless nights at the prospect of returning to Qualifying School if he fails to secure his European Tour card for next season.

The 33-year-old's future on the European Tour is uncertain after a largely disappointing year for the Ashford golfer. With one event remaining, Barham is 129th on the Order of Merit rankings and needs a strong finish to avoid going back to Qualifying School to earn his right to play next season.

Last week he needed a top-10 finish at the Castello Masters in Spain, which would have lifted him into the crucial top 115 golfers in the rankings and meant he kept his Tour card for 2010. However, after a strong tournament he could only finish in tied 25th position.

He told Kent on Sunday: "It's not a matter of life and death and if anything, it has given me a kick to perform better next year."

"I have been to Qualifying School four times and if I have to do that I don't think it will be a problem. My game has improved so much from the last time I was there."

"Obviously it was disappointing not to finish higher in Spain as I had put myself in a great position, the three bogeys on the final three holes really cost me."

'Losing my Tour card is not the end of the world'

POSITIVE: Benn Barham says failing to qualify for European Tour will spur him on

Barham is now left with one final opportunity to finish the season inside the top 115 as he heads to the JBWere Masters in Melbourne, Australia, later this month.

But world number one, Tiger Woods, could stand in his way as he is expected to play at the tournament.

With prize money not as high as previous events on the tour, Barham is targeting a top-five finish, which should earn him around the 40,000 euros needed to finish in the top 115.

He will travel to Australia next week to get ready for the tournament, which begins on November 12.



Picture: ADY KERRY

Pictures: ADY KERRY

**SPOT OF BOTHER:** Trouble flared at Priestfield when fans clashed during the first Gillingham v Charlton league match for 28 years

Gills review ticket deal after crowd trouble

SAFETY procedures at Gillingham's Priestfield Stadium have come under scrutiny after crowd trouble at last weekend's clash with nearest rivals Charlton Athletic.

Gills fans were furious that a large group of Charlton supporters were allowed to stay in the ground despite being seated in an area designated for home fans only.

The situation escalated when the Addicks went 1-0 up in the League One battle, as their fans celebrated wildly in the Medway Stand and goaded those sitting around them and nearby in the Rainham End.

Yet despite tempers threatening to boil over between both sets of fans, stewards employed by the Medway club have been criticised for not ejecting those causing trouble.

Following the match, which ended in a 1-1 draw, Gills fans flooded the club's message board with complaints.

One wrote: "The stewards need to work out what on earth they are for. I think we were lucky there was no serious trouble."

Gillingham's clash with Charlton last Saturday was the first time the two sides had met in the league for 28 years, and a sell-out crowd of 10,304 was on hand to watch the action unfold.

The Charlton fans involved in the incident towards the end of the game had paid extra as part of the club's corporate Watch, Wine and Dine package.

Gillingham safety officer, Tony Payne, told KOS Media the club was reviewing its

policy for ticket allocations in corporate areas in light of the incident.

He said: "In the corporate areas of the ground an early decision was made to minimise the potential of disagreement by mixing guests at the dining tables and in the stands."

"This worked well until the moment Charlton scored, when a number of away fans in the Medway Stand celebrated, antagonising home supporters in that stand and the Rainham End."

"Order in both areas was quickly restored and, although two people were detained and another ejected, it would not have been practicable to remove all those involved. The rest of the game passed without further incident."

**STAYING PATIENT:** Gills' Simon King

King taking slow road to recovery

SIMON King has begun his rehabilitation following ankle surgery but admits he will be happy just to return to the Gillingham side before the end of the season.

The Priestfield defender has been out since rupturing ligaments in July. After the injury failed to heal itself naturally, he went under the knife in September and tentative treatment is now under way.

King, 26, is scheduled to begin impact work in mid-January, but the highly-rated centre-back told Kent on Sunday he would just settle for coming back before May.

"It's going to be difficult because being out for so long you tend to pick up other little injuries along the way," he said. "I've got to get my fitness back, so I'm just hoping I'll get to play some part of this season."

The long weeks since picking up the injury have given the defender plenty of time for reflection. Never far away from his thoughts has been a nagging doubt the injury was partly his own doing.

"In hindsight I don't think I did myself any favours last year playing through ankle injuries," he said.

"It was painful before and after games, but I didn't really feel it during them. At the time I didn't realise the damage I was doing to my body, you just want to play every game."

For someone who had previously avoided serious injuries, King readily admits the time spent out has been a shock to the system, but he is now able to look ahead with some optimism.

He said: "You do feel isolated and away from it – I think that's the hardest thing to cope with."

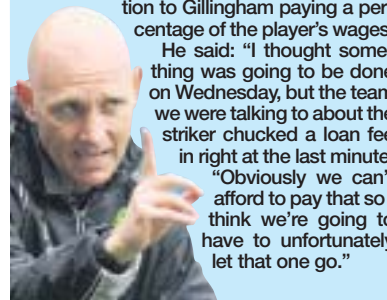
"There's a bit of light at the end of the tunnel. Coming off the crutches, you could say that's the most difficult part done now."

Stimson priced out in bid for forward

GILLINGHAM'S hopes of bringing in a striker on loan have been scuppered after the Premier League club involved tacked on an extra fee.

The Gills were closing in on agreeing a three-month deal for a player at a top flight club, but talks have ground to a halt. Manager Mark Stimson (pictured) believes the move is now dead unless the club remove the payment, which was in addition to Gillingham paying a percentage of the player's wages.

He said: "I thought something was going to be done on Wednesday, but the team we were talking to about the striker chucked a loan fee in right at the last minute. "Obviously we can't afford to pay that so I think we're going to have to unfortunately let that one go."



Staff of legends

Olympic hero aims to add more medals to his collection in pursuit of greatness

By **TOM HOWARD**

HE REACHED the pinnacle of the sport a year ago by winning Olympic gold, but a rejuvenated Jamie Staff harbours another urge for a gold medal pursuit.

The 36-year-old cyclist, from Ashford, is gearing up for another season in the saddle and after a taste of gold last year, he has now switched his attention to the World Championships in Denmark next year.

Sabbatical

Since winning Olympic gold in Beijing, interest in Staff and British Cycling has rocketed. Now more than 12 months on from what he describes as the best moment of his career, Staff feels he can finally close the Beijing Olympics chapter of his life and focus on a new challenge.

After a six-month sabbatical, he returned to the track in style last week, winning gold in the Team Sprint at the British Championships.

His next target is to claim gold in the Team Sprint at the World Championships in March.

He told Kent on Sunday: "Last year was a long season and it took a lot out of me. I got to a point where I couldn't really look at my bike anymore. But I think that's done me good as I'm loving it more than ever now."

"Everyone has stopped pretending to be celebrities after the Olympics, and I probably have more drive in me than I've ever had."



Picture: BRITISHCYCLING.ORG.UK

NEW CHAPTER: Jamie Staff (right) is ready to put the Olympics and the opposition behind him

"The World Championships is the main aim as we only managed silver last year and we are desperate to put that right."

"Although there are more and more young riders on the scene now, I'm feeling in good shape and I think there is enough pace in me to stay just ahead of them."

As well as the World Championships, 2010 will see India host the Commonwealth Games in October, but Staff is unsure if he will get

the chance to add a Commonwealth gold to his collection.

He said: "Nobody has really said much about the Commonwealth Games. We are not sure if an English team will even travel to it for political reasons."

"I don't think the Velodrome has even been built yet, but it would be nice to go there and compete against Scotland and Chris Hoy, but we have to wait and see on that one."

Roo need to sign contract, warn Gills

TEENAGE midfielder Luke Rooney has been warned he risks having his new Gillingham contract offer withdrawn if he continues to delay signing, *writes David Pritchard*.

The 18-year-old has made an excellent start to his senior career after stepping up from the youth team this summer. His form, which has included fine goals against Exeter and Southampton, prompted the Gills to offer the winger a

new contract three weeks ago, which would keep him at the club until 2013.

Fellow youngster Jack Payne signed the same deal immediately, but Rooney, after consulting with his agent, has so far stalled on agreeing terms.

This week Gillingham manager Mark Stimson told Rooney's advisers the contract would be retracted in the near future if it remained unsigned.

"It's a big risk, we're very close to doing it. That's what I've told the agent, if we don't get it sorted out then it's going to be withdrawn," he said.

Stimson stressed that whatever the outcome, it would not affect Rooney's chances of playing in the first-team. The teenager's current deal expires next summer, but the club have an option to extend it by another season if they wish.

The Gills boss insisted he was only concerned for Rooney's form, which he believes has suffered since the contract was offered.

He said: "I think it has a little bit if you've seen him in the reserve team. He's had a real good game and a real poor game since it's been happening and this week it was a mixed bag. It's going to affect the lad unfortunately, but he was the one who decided to sign with the agent."



NEW DEAL: Luke Rooney



VISITOR: Lewis Hamilton in his McLaren Mercedes at Brands Hatch last year

Picture: ZOUBIN NAVI

BRANDS OWNER EYES BRITISH GP

Circuit could take over as Donington bid stalls

EXCLUSIVE

By **TOM HOWARD**

BRANDS Hatch has declared its interest in hosting a possible return of Formula One if Silverstone fails to agree a new deal to host the British Grand Prix.

The Kent circuit hasn't hosted motor-sport's premier championship since 1986, but with the future of the British Grand Prix in doubt following Donington Park's 2010 bid failing due to lack of funding, Brands Hatch could be a future alternative.

Since Nigel Mansell won the final Grand Prix at Brands Hatch 23 years ago, the nearest the circuit has come to hosting the pinnacle of motor racing was in 1999, when then owner Nicola Foulston won the rights to host the 2002 British Grand Prix.

However, failure to secure sufficient planning permission saw the race return to Silverstone and the Northamptonshire circuit has hosted Formula One since 1987, but is yet to agree a deal for 2010.

Despite Brands Hatch needing a major £75 million overhaul to comply with Formula One regulations, the venue's

owner, Jonathan Palmer, admitted he would be interested in looking into hosting Formula One in the future.

He said: "The Grand Prix was given to Donington Park and that circuit is not that different to Brands. It is undulating and more exciting than flat circuits like Silverstone. It would be fantastic if it came back to Brands. The circuit is challenging and has a perfect location as it is close to London.

"I have thought about hosting it, and if Formula One owner Bernie Ecclestone called me and offered me a chance for a bid I would be interested in looking into a business case for it. The circuit would have to undergo a major change and it would have a different lay out, run-off areas would need to be extended and a whole new pit and paddock construction completed.

"The problem would be getting planning permission as our current planning permission would not allow us to do what is required. I think Silverstone is the better option but our chances of hosting it are not nil, but pretty remote."

Former world champion John Surtees, who secured a third place in the circuit's first Grand Prix in 1964 on his way to the title, would welcome a return of the sport to Brands Hatch. However, the Edenbridge-based former racer believes the circuit

would risk losing other race events from its calendar if it were to get the go-ahead.

He said: "It is a great circuit but it would need a massive overhaul. Times have changed since I raced Formula One there and the sport is much more popular.

"The country has to have a Grand Prix because the sport and the industry is massive here. We have also just had two world champions.

"Brands would have to be careful though as hosting events as big as Formula One could see other race series leave the circuit. The track has been a training ground for young drivers and that is something they will not want to lose."

With Formula One watched by a global audience estimated at 600 million people, if the event was to return to Brands Hatch the county would receive a significant boost.

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